



Daily Report

Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-87-247
Thursday
24 December 1987

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Karpov, Obukhov Hold Press Conference

Missile Destruction Begins

LD231833 Moscow TASS in English
1807 GMT 23 Dec 87

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS—Member of the Collegium of the USSR Foreign Ministry, chief of the Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry for Problems of Arms Limitation and Disarmament Viktor Karpov and deputy head of the Soviet delegation at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva, ambassador at large Aleksey Obukhov, gave a news conference for journalists from socialist countries at the press centre of the USSR Foreign Ministry today.

The treaty on intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles signed in Washington is viewed as an initial step toward real disarmament in the nuclear-missile area, Aleksey Obukhov told the news conference. Another specific feature of the treaty is a ramified, well-considered, far-reaching meticulous system of verification by national technical means combined with inspection. Measures for verification inherent in the treaty make the sides fully confident that the obligations assumed will be fulfilled.

Aleksey Obukhov dwelt at length on the intensive work of Soviet and American experts on the documents of the treaty. Aleksey Obukhov spoke highly of the American participants in the talks. He emphasized that they are competent specialists who, he believes, however, lacked at times flexibility and constructiveness, particularly at those moments when most difficult details were discussed.

Viktor Karpov dwelt on those aspects of the Soviet-American treaty which affect third countries. On the Soviet part, the treaty affects directly the GDR and Czechoslovakia, on the part of the United States five West European countries—Great Britain, the Netherlands, the FRG, Italy, Belgium. The talks on the problem of verification were most complex. The Soviet Union proceeded from the view that there was a need for comprehensive verification which should apply to the territories of all countries where the missiles of the two classes to be destroyed were deployed or where depots with such missiles or production facilities were situated. The proposals of the U.S. side on this matter were actually that in the course of several years verification should be limited only to the territory of the Soviet Union.

The common concept has eventually been arrived at. In its framework verification should apply in the course of 13 years to the places where operational bases of intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles were situated and the territories where there were storages of those missiles or facilities for their production. Viktor Karpov stressed that this principle of verification can serve as a good basis for further Soviet-American arrangements in

the area of strategic offensive arms. It is important to note that all the rights that the Americans get for inspections on the territories of the GDR and Czechoslovakia are strictly in accordance with the rights that will be given to Soviet inspectors on the territories of five West European countries.

Intensive work for practical implementation of the process of the destruction of missiles, including missiles situated on the territories of the GDR and Czechoslovakia, which will be brought to special ranges in the Soviet Union, is now conducted in the USSR. Under the arrangement between the Soviet and the American leaders, the process of the destruction of missiles is planned to be started before the ratification of the treaty as this procedure will apparently take several months, Viktor Karpov noted. In the United States the procedures connected with the ratification will be started in commissions of the Senate of the U.S. Congress in the second half of January. At about the same time the USSR Foreign Ministry will submit the treaty for the endorsement of the USSR Council of Ministers, which is the initial step toward the ratification of the treaty in the Soviet Union.

Further on Karpov Remarks

LD240058 Moscow in English to North America
2300 GMT 23 Dec 87

[Excerpts] In Moscow, journalists from the Socialist countries met Soviet diplomats who took a direct part in drafting the text of the treaty scrapping medium- and shorter-range missiles. Viktor Karpov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry Department for Arms Reduction and Disarmament, and Ambassador Aleksey Obukhov, deputy head of the Soviet delegation to the Washington talks, described the drafting of the treaty and dwelled on the issues that need resolving in the course of its implementation. [passage omitted]

During the Washington summit, said Viktor Karpov, Mikhail Gorbachev promised President Reagan that right after the treaty was signed and even without waiting for its ratification the Soviet Union would start withdrawing its missiles from the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia. In wishing to be true to that promise, the Soviet Union is beginning the tactical missile withdrawal from these two countries one of these days. As is known, there are no Soviet medium-range missiles there. The missiles liable to destruction are to be destroyed on Soviet territory, in the desert areas of Central Asia.

Of course, continued Viktor Karpov, all these steps will require considerable effort and expenditure on the transportation of missiles to distant regions. Besides, appropriate facilities will have to be built. But this country is conscientiously undertaking all these difficulties and expenditures, since it is dangerous to destroy missiles, largely by explosion, in densely populated areas.

Asked if all of the missile components were liable to destruction, Aleksey Obukhov said each side would extract the nuclear charges and use them as it saw fit. It also is not economical to destroy electronic instrumentation. Any military expert would understand that this instrumentation couldn't possibly be used in other types of weapons but could well find its uses in radio engineering or television. It was not described as expedient, either, to destroy delivery vehicles. Autovehicles, for instance, could be used to transport timber or large-diameter pipes.

To the great surprise of his audience, Aleksey Obukhov said not all of the medium- and shorter-range missiles would be destroyed. Only the smiling faces of the Soviet diplomats made it clear that this is not a secret that was yet to be uncovered. It all meant that under a mutual agreement the two countries retained 15 missiles each to display in museums. Aleksey Obukhov invited his audience to imagine a scene from the next millenium when a guide would show such a missile to tourists and tell them about the initial stage of nuclear weapons destruction. He expressed the hope that by that time all nuclear weapons would have been scrapped.

Official Gives Details of Radar Station Vans

*LD231625 Moscow TASS in English
1557 GMT 23 Dec 87*

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS—U.S. representatives stayed in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet side. They had an opportunity to view in the period from December 20 to 22, this year, the "Pawn Shop" radar station vans and separate sections of the "flat twin" radar station (by American terminology) in the areas of Gomel and Moscow.

At a briefing, which was held here today, the head of the main administration of the ministry of the radio industry of the USSR Vladimir Maksimov told Soviet and foreign journalists on the use in the national economy of the vans from the "Pawn Shop" radar station and separate sections of the "Flat Twin" radar station.

The "Pawn Shop" van with a swivelling mount, he said, is an antenna-swivelling device which enable one to make measurements of characteristics of small-size antennas. The above van will have inside standard p-3 and p-5 receivers, a standard signal generator of the g-4-120-g type which can receive characteristics of different antennas. These are antennas which are used at radar sets manufactured by our Ministry for the ministry of civil aviation, for radars which are used by Soviet hydrometeorological services. One of such radars was demonstrated to the American experts during the meeting. This is the radar complex "Skala" Which was designed and is manufactured by our ministry.

American specialists were given detailed explanations and they were shown that the above complex is not connected with other structures, said Vladimir Maksimov.

The big antenna-swivelling mount from the "Flat Twin" radar station is planned to be put on a concrete foundation which is already being prepared in the area of Gomel. A big diameter antenna will be placed on it. Check-out recording gear, an electronic computer for processing the incoming information, of the SM-14-20 type, and also power sources, generators and stabilisers will be placed in vans and containers. The given measuring bench can be used for obtaining characteristics of work of big-size antennas. These antennas will be used for observation over extra-terrestrial sources, such as the Cygnus and Cassiopeia constellations or the edge of the sun. The above antenna is being developed for the academy of sciences, the hydrometeorological service in the interests of the national economy, civil aviation, merchant marine.

Detailed technical explanations were given to the American experts in the course of the demonstration, said the representative of the ministry of the radio industry of the USSR. They were allowed to make pictures not only of separate elements, antenna-swivelling devices, but also the adjacent areas so that there should be no doubt that we have nothing to conceal. The American delegation also had an opportunity to record on dictaphones the full text of the technical discussion between American and Soviet representatives. In our opinion this will enable American experts to present an objective report for the congress.

From a statement made on the last day of the meeting by the head of the U.S. delegation we understood that he had been fully satisfied with the results of the demonstration and the technical answers that we had given, said Vladimir Maksimov.

INF Negotiator on Washington Treaty, START

*PM231447 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian
23 Dec 87 First Edition p 5*

[S. Volovets interview with special envoy A.A. Obukhov, deputy head of the Soviet INF delegation in Geneva, under the rubric "The World Welcomes the First Step Toward Nuclear Disarmament: "Thirty Months Leading Up to the Treaty"; first paragraph is editorial introduction]

[Text] Our SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA correspondent had a meeting with envoy A.A. Obukhov, deputy head of the Soviet delegation in Geneva which spent more than 30 months in negotiations which resulted in the draft text of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles signed during the summit meeting in Washington.

[Volovets] Aleksey Aleksandrovich, the editorial office has received a flood of letters about the results of M.S. Gorbachev's visit to the United States. Each letter does not just support this first step in real nuclear disarmament and approve of these improvements in relations between our countries. These letters also reflect a deep personal interest and an understanding of the link between the fate of the individual and that of the country as a whole. They also ask a great many questions, of course. People often ask, for example, whether we have gone further than we should in pledging to destroy more warheads than the Americans?

[Obukhov] Yes, it is true, we will be destroying more warheads, but only because the decision to eliminate all intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles is in the interests of the two countries' mutual security. The arms race in which we have become involved against our will is chaotic. Its parameters depend on dozens of factors and the weapons arsenals of those involved in it are not symmetrical. We will be eliminating more, the Americans less, but the result will be the same for both sides—the disappearance of entire classes of nuclear arms.

The treaty signed by the two countries' leaders is also the realization of the new political thinking in diplomatic practice and the result of the Soviet leadership's persistent attempt to reduce the level of nuclear confrontation and begin a process of real nuclear disarmament. The idea of limiting all military systems to a level of sufficiency is now becoming increasingly clearly established. In this respect it is important to recall the proposal made by the USSR and the Warsaw Pact countries to compare the two sides' military doctrines and discuss their approaches to and methods of ensuring strategic stability. As a result of the summit meeting the American side has agreed—albeit after some hesitation—to hold these consultations. The Warsaw Pact countries have formally stated that their military doctrine is defensive. We want all countries' military doctrines to be defensive. We want to see progress in disarmament while maintaining parity. This parity must be maintained at an increasingly low level. In this sense the decision affecting intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles accords with the principle of equal security and reciprocity. The result for the two sides is the same: A zero in intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles on a global scale, although the starting points are different.

I think that SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA readers noted and based their conclusion on the fact that, before the treaty was ready for signing, five meetings took place this year between the Soviet foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state, who each had meetings respectively with M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan: in April, September, twice in October, and in November. There were a great many problems which it was not easy to overcome. An enormous amount of work was done at ministerial level.

[Volovets] Why will it take 3 years to destroy the missiles? Does this have something to do with security?

[Obukhov] This length of time is due solely to the technical potential for destroying weapon complexes. It is clear that the process of eliminating these missiles is going to be quite lengthy and difficult—purely from a technological standpoint. Otherwise they would be eliminated within a month, if not sooner. I am sure everyone would want this.

[Volovets] People are also asking why the treaty allows up to 100 intermediate-range missiles to be destroyed by being launched. Some of our readers wonder whether it would not be possible to deal with the stockpiled missiles and their high quality materials in a more economical way, using them for the Secondary Raw Materials Program, for example. What is more, as one reader said, this would not be a bad symbol.

[Obukhov] Launching the missiles is a highly effective method of destroying them. But our delegation did not forget the interests of the national economy when the treaty was being drawn up. For example, the American side insisted that the facilities for transporting the missiles be cut through the axis and converted into scrap metal. We managed to persuade our partners to accept another solution whereby these transport facilities would be modified to render them inoperable for their original purpose while still being perfectly capable of transporting timber, for example.

[Volovets] You have mentioned one concession made by the American side. Were there any others?

[Obukhov] Yes, there were, just as our side made concessions too. One example is the decision to eliminate the warheads on the FRG'S Pershing-1A missiles. And we succeeded in persuading the Americans to give up the idea of transferring ground-launched cruise missiles to seagoing vessels.

[Volovets] Aleksey Aleksandrovich, what are the Americans like as partners?

[Obukhov] Sometimes people say they are bad diplomats. A condescending attitude to American diplomats is quite inappropriate. They are highly trained professionals, have a thorough knowledge of the issues under discussion, and can stubbornly defend their position. My only wish is that they were more flexible at negotiations.

[Volovets] Nuclear risk reduction centers, which the two countries decided to establish in September this year, must be used for the purpose of exchanging data, giving notification of inspections, conveying requests, and so forth. At the same time there is talk of setting up a special verification commission to oversee the implementation of the treaty. Readers would like to know more about the composition and purpose of these two bodies.

[Obukhov] The nuclear risk reduction centers are currently being set up in line with the agreement reached in September this year. They were originally formed for the purpose of giving notification in accordance with other Soviet-American agreements, particularly the 1971 agreement on measures to reduce the danger of nuclear war between the USSR and the United States. The signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-range and Shorter-range Missiles was a natural event to increase the scope of these agreements. The centers will operate in the capitals of the two countries and will be linked by an independent facsimile line. Information will be passed between these centers in conformity with the treaty. The joint special verification commission will be responsible for discussing relevant questions and matters that may need to be clarified.

[Volovets] Aleksey Aleksandrovich, will the task of drawing up a treaty to reduce strategic offensive weapons—which we all hope will be ready for signing in the first half of next year—be easier in view of experience?

[Obukhov] The question of reducing strategic offensive weapons is a central problem of Soviet-American relations. They determine the strategic relationship between our states. Because of the role they play the task of reducing them is not easy. It goes without saying that the experience of concluding the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-range and Shorter-range Missiles has a useful role to play. It has given us experience in solving disputes and finding new approaches to verification issues. The first joint draft of the treaty signed in Washington was compiled in May. The first joint draft of the future treaty on strategic offensive weapons was compiled in October. In view of the instructions given to the Geneva delegations after the Washington meeting between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan there is every reason to hope that the draft treaty on strategic offensive weapons could be ready for President Reagan's planned visit to Moscow. The task, I repeat, is difficult and by no means small, but if there is the will to reach an accord on both sides it is perfectly feasible. As far as our country is concerned, no one can accuse us of not showing goodwill. This is enough time for us.

TASS Notes U.S., GDR Agreement on Inspections
LD232113 Moscow TASS in English
2054 GMT 23 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin December 23 TASS—An agreement on the holding of inspections on the territory of the German Democratic Republic envisaged in the framework of the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles was concluded between the Governments of the GDR and the United States. The ADN

news agency reports that GDR Deputy Foreign Minister Kurt Nier and United States Ambassador to the GDR Francis Joseph Meehan exchanged appropriate notes today.

In a conversation with the ambassador, Kurt Nier emphasized that as a result of the conclusion of the tripartite agreement with the USSR and Czechoslovakia of December 11, as well as the agreement with the United States, the GDR on its part created important prerequisites for a prompt implementation of the treaty on intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles.

On the basis of the agreement between the GDR and the United States American inspectors and persons accompanying them are given the right to visit the GDR territory to fulfil the tasks of verification. The agreement between the GDR and the United States comes into effect simultaneously with the Soviet-American treaty.

Zubkov on INF Treaty Ratification Prospects
OW240929 Moscow Television Service in Russian
1220 GMT 16 Dec 87

[From the "World Today" program presented by Georgiy Zubkov]

[Text] We all continue to discuss and exchange views about the USSR-U.S. summit meeting and the signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate and Shorter-Range Missiles. I think an exchange of views of this kind takes place in every Soviet or American family, and the topic of the Soviet-American meeting does not live only in the pages of a newspaper, whether here or abroad. This is a regular and quite a natural thing. The elimination of at least a small portion of the nuclear arms concerns the fate of all mankind, the whole of our planet, and each man taken individually. Statesmen, diplomats, military, and experts in different spheres in Moscow, Washington, West European capitals, and everywhere in the world are subjecting the results of the USSR-U.S. summit meeting to thorough analysis. Important meetings and tours are taking place. One is the visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to Western Europe. Today, he is holding talks in London, and I shall discuss that a little later on.

The Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate and Shorter-Range Missiles is signed. Now everyone is interested in the question—how will the situation develop? Primarily, the matter lies in the treaty ratification. Speaking on Soviet television, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said: The treaty has demonstrated to everyone that the turn from the arms race to disarmament is possible. Now, the aim is to preserve the atmosphere which allowed us to conclude the treaty, and to continue acting constructively and consistently. To do this, we should provide the treaty

with the power of law—ratify it. The General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee expressed confidence that the Supreme Soviet of our country would support the agreement, because this is the will of our people. Comrade Gorbachev said that the fact of practical participation of many Supreme Soviet Deputies and its commissions, primarily the foreign affairs commissions, in the consideration of questions connected with the preparation of the treaty is also important.

Yes, the treaty is important, because it will also be scrutinized by three U.S. Senate commissions—they call them committees—before it is submitted for general voting by the the U.S. Senate. To be ratified by the U.S. Senate, the treaty requires a two-thirds majority vote, but a simple majority is sufficient to introduce amendments. It practically signifies that the conservatively-minded senators can easily resort to the tactic of delays. When old concepts are being broken, resistance of those who connect with them their political and material well-being unavoidably increases.

Comrade Gorbachev noted in his TV address that only 3 days had passed since his return home, but certain circles of the United States and other countries of the West are already mobilizing their forces to prevent the change for the better. Voices that appeal to the U.S. leadership not to go too far, but rather to stop the disarmament process, are becoming increasingly stronger. They are demanding urgent measures for compensation of the elimination of the intermediate and short-range missiles, by bringing to Europe and into the proximity of Europe new nuclear forces and by modernizing the nuclear and other arms will remain there.

U.S. President Ronald Reagan held a meeting in the White House with leaders of the Republican Party of the U.S. Congress. Prospects of quick consideration and ratification of the treaty on elimination of intermediate and short-range missiles were the main topics of the meeting. The same report from Washington indicates that representatives of ultraright forces have already begun an active and full-scale campaign for compromising the first agreement in history that envisages concrete steps in the sphere of disarmament.

Academician Wants Defense Budget Published

PM240944 Paris LE MATIN in French
3 Dec 87 p 6

[Interview with Soviet Academician Vitaliy Goldanskiy by Claude-Marie Vadrot—date and place not given]

[Text] LE MATIN: Are you optimistic about the results of the Reagan-Gorbachev meeting?

Vitaliy Goldanskiy: Yes, I am very interested and fairly optimistic. The meeting has been well-planned and ought to produce good results.

LE MATIN: What do you think about the reservations expressed in Europe on this denuclearization of European territory?

Vitaliy Goldanskiy: I understand these anxieties and it is a subject which I frequently discuss with my French colleagues and my colleagues in the countries concerned. They are entitled to be rather anxious. This proves that we must not stop here, that we must tackle other spheres of disarmament, including conventional weapons.

LE MATIN: But, eventually, after the elimination of the Euromissiles, will not the Soviets be able to change the direction of fire of other missiles which are unaffected by this initial agreement?

Vitaliy Goldanskiy: You are right, it is a real problem. There will also have to be surveillance and verification on this point. Nobody must be able to cheat.

LE MATIN: Will it cost a great deal to dismantle these missiles?

Vitaliy Goldanskiy: Yes, because it is a complex operation. We must first rid ourselves of the booster and hence the fuel. Second, the problem of the nuclear warhead has to be tackled. I know that French scientists have good techniques for doing that, and for converting them into civilian nuclear fuel.

But the essential problem is as much political as it is technical and we must set up international cooperation and a working group which would settle this question. Peaceful competition can be organized.

LE MATIN: Will the start of disarmament ultimately reduce the Soviet military budget?

Vitaliy Goldanskiy: Yes, we will achieve that. A country's productive strength is limited and we stand to gain from reducing military spending for the benefit of civilian spending. This does not just apply to us.... The whole of mankind will benefit from it.

LE MATIN: However, your military budget has yet to be revealed....

Vitaliy Goldanskiy: You are quite right and I hope that it will be published; and I hope that it will be calculated in exactly the same way as the Western countries' military budgets! This is an economic and a political problem. This publication and calculation are necessary for the sake of price realism and real costs; second, democratization requires truth on this point. Openness must also be applied to military affairs.

LE MATIN: How do you view the implementation of this disarmament?

Vitaliy Goldanskiy: We must be strict on the question of mutual verification. This precise and permanent verification can gradually lead us to trust each other. Distrust must be a thing of the past: We must verify and verify again, even in the sphere of chemical weapons. The countries concerned must open up to other countries and scientists can act as guarantors for these first steps toward mutual confidence.

In addition, Pugwash, an international movement to which I belong, is drawing up a white paper on this subject and scientists will discuss it in connection with chemical weapons in Geneva in January.

LE MATIN: Are there prospects for reducing conventional weapons?

Vitaliy Goldanskiy: Yes, we just have to find political solutions and, I repeat, establish verification procedures. But we must also do this rapidly.

LE MATIN: Will this Washington summit just produce the expected results or do you think that Mikhail Gorbachev has other proposals or other initiatives in reserve?

Vitaliy Goldanskiy: It is possible that other things will be announced. Anything is possible when a process has been started, although it is still very difficult because any proposal must have symmetry. But I think that now is the time to make more plans.

Shevardnadze Plan To Visit FRG Announced

LD231335 Moscow TASS in English 1329 GMT
23 Dec 87

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS—Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's visit to West Germany is being planned, Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov said today.

Gerasimov, chief of the ministry's Information Directorate, was speaking in a reply to a query at a briefing for Soviet and foreign correspondents.

The time-frame of the visit agreed with the West German side would be published later, he said.

Gerasimov Briefs Press on Afghanistan Offensive

AU231325 Paris AFP in English 1326 GMT
23 Dec 87

[Text] Moscow, Dec 23 (AFP)—A total 1,500 Afghan rebels have been killed or wounded in a two-day offensive by Soviet and Afghan troops battling to reopen a strategic road in southeastern Afghanistan near the Pakistani border controlled by the guerrillas, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said Wednesday.

Spokesman Gennady Gerasimov told a news briefing that the offensive had been launched on Monday to open the road between Khost, a town of 40,000 encircled by rebel forces, and Gardez, some 150 kilometres (93 miles) further north.

The Afghan army forces, "supported by Soviet troops", were advancing along the road from both Gardez and Khost, Mr. Gerasimov said, adding that 40 kilometres (25 miles) now separated both government groups. This appeared to mean that the region in between was still controlled by the rebels.

At the time time, Soviet and Afghan troops are trying to break the rebel siege of Khost, in an offensive announced last Saturday on Soviet television.

Mr. Gerasimov refused to say how many Soviet and Afghan Government troops had been killed or wounded in the offensive around Khost, which according to Western diplomats is the biggest military operation involving Soviet troops since the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan eight years ago.

Vasilyev Views U.S. Stand on Middle East

LD232013 Moscow TASS in English 1734 GMT
23 Dec 87

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS—TASS Commentator Grigoriy Vasilyev writes:

The United Nations Security Council has adopted a resolution which condemns Israel's policy and practice in occupied Arab territories, the use of live ammunition

against Palestinian population. Abstaining from voting, the United States showed again its support for Tel Aviv, which tries to crush by brute force the uprising of Palestinian Arabs in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank of Jordan, to dampen by repressive measures the wave of protests in Israel itself against arbitrariness and outrages of Israeli occupiers.

The U.S. Administrations replacing one another have been approaching the Middle East affairs for a non-constructive, obstructionist stand. Together with its ally, Tel Aviv, Washington actually obstructs the convocation of a full-fledged and representative international conference on the Middle East which is the only way to durable peace in the region. There are only insignificant differences in the stands of the allies. While Tel Aviv, insisting on separate talks, rejects the very idea of convening an international conference, Washington, supporting it in words, views it in reality as a cover up for its backstage deals. In other words, Washington envisages unequal talks with Arabs in conditions of the continued occupation of Arab lands by Israel.

Meanwhile, the time is ripe for practical steps to convene a conference and set its mechanism in motion. Declaring for constructive collective efforts in the framework of the forum, the Soviet Union is prepared to show principledness and flexibility, to take into account different viewpoints, to cooperate with all who are really interested in an early and equitable Middle East settlement. Such a settlement should be all-embracing in nature, should take into consideration the interests of all the parties involved in the conflict, including the interests of Israel, of other states, and the inalienable rights of Palestinian Arabs to national self-determination.

The convocation of an international conference is the demand of the times. It is dictated by the need to eradicate a dangerous seat of tension in the Middle East, to ensure security and conditions for independent development for all nations of the region.

Latest Round of CSCE Talks Ends in Vienna

PM231216 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Dec 87
Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the Vienna Talks"]

[Text] Vienna, 18 Dec—The latest stage in the meeting of representatives of states which took part in the CSCE ended here today.

The next stage of the Vienna meeting will begin 22 January 1988.

Envoys Brief Foreign Leaders on Summit

PM231325 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Dec 87
Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meetings of Soviet Leadership's Representatives"]

[Text] These days the Soviet leadership's special representatives are holding talks with heads of state and government, foreign ministers, and other prominent statesmen and politicians of foreign countries.

During the talks the Soviet side is setting out its assessment of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting and analyzing the influence of the Washington talks on the development of the international situation as a whole.

The foreign leaders are sharing their assessment of the Washington accords, congratulating the Soviet leadership, and expressing the hope that really tangible results will be achieved in the cause of strengthening international security.

Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, and Pham Hung, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, received B.N. Chaplin, USSR deputy foreign minister. The Vietnamese side made a high assessment of the USSR's indefatigable efforts aimed at ending the nuclear arms race, at disarmament, and at ensuring peace throughout the world. It was emphasized that the Washington meeting's success was a consequence of the foreign policy course elaborated at the 27th CPSU Congress and the result of new political thinking. The Vietnamese leaders voiced support for the treaty signed in Washington and the other results of the summit meeting, which constitute an important step on the path to a nuclear-free and nonviolent world and to the creation of an all-embracing system of international security.

Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and of Ministers of the republic, received Ambassador at Large A.A. Obukhov in Havana. People in Cuba, F. Castro declared, wholly and fully support the positive results of the Washington talks. The decisions adopted earlier at the Soviet-U.S. summit meetings in Geneva and Reykjavik are starting to produce results. The signing of the treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles is a common success for all peace-loving forces. It is now necessary, the Cuban leader emphasized, to activate efforts with a view to preparing a new accord—on a 50% reduction in strategic offensive arms.

Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia Central Committee and president of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, pointed to the tremendous significance of the results of the Washington talks for the destiny of all mankind in conversation with A.Yu. Uznov, deputy chief of the

CPSU Central Committee International Department, who visited him in Addis Ababa. The signing of the treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles, he said, is the first step on the way to real nuclear disarmament and opens up favorable prospects for further progress toward a nuclear-free world. Mengistu Haile Mariam conveyed cordial congratulations to M.S. Gorbachev, the CPSU, and the entire Soviet people on that historic achievement.

M. Koivisto, president of the Republic of Finland, received V.M. Nikiforov, USSR deputy foreign minister. Meetings and talks were also held with Finnish Foreign Minister K. Sorsa. The Finnish side expressed great satisfaction with what was achieved at the Washington meeting and voiced the hope that the Soviet-U.S. dialogue will be continued further and that a significant step will be taken in the sphere of reducing strategic offensive arms in 1988. In the Finns' opinion, the normalization of Soviet-U.S. relations will help to improve the international climate.

On receiving USSR Deputy Foreign Minister V.P. Loginov, Greek Prime Minister A. Papandreou expressed gratitude to the Soviet leadership for the detailed information and made a high assessment of the Soviet-U.S. agreement. Noting the USSR's special contribution and its constant efforts in achieving the goals of eliminating nuclear weapons, A. Papandreou declared that Greece, as a participant in the initiative of the six, will make constant efforts with a view to promoting the reaching of an agreement on a 50% reduction in nuclear strategic arms, which is now on the agenda. A meeting was also held with Greek Foreign Minister K. Papoulias.

V.P. Loginov also visited Belgrade, where he was received by S. Hasani, member of the SFRY Presidency. During the talks a range of questions relating to the Soviet-U.S. summit talks in Washington was discussed.

V.P. Karpov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Administration for Problems of Arms Limitation and Disarmament, was received by French President F. Mitterrand and Foreign Minister J.-B. Raimond and had talks with J.-L. Bianco, secretary general of the Elysee Palace, and F. Bujon de l'Estang, assistant prime minister for foreign policy affairs. The French side expressed gratitude to the Soviet leadership for providing prompt information on the results of the Washington meeting. Approval was expressed for the Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles, which is regarded in France as a document of historic significance. Special note was taken of the innovative nature of the treaty's provisions on verification. President F. Mitterrand and the other French interlocutors evaluated highly the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting.

On receiving USSR Deputy Foreign Minister A.L. Adamishin in Tokyo, Japanese Foreign Minister S. Uno declared that Japan hails the Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles as the first step

in the cause of reducing nuclear weapons and wishes the USSR and the United States success on this path, above all with regard to strategic offensive arms. Our side expressed the hope that Japan will play a constructive role in efforts to ensure a further shift away from confrontation toward cooperation in international affairs.

On receiving Ambassador at Large O.A. Grinevskiy, President F. Cossiga of the Italian Republic called the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting and the signing of the treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles "a historic event in the full sense of the word." A qualitative leap has been taken toward a new state of international relations and, as the president of Italy pointed out, mankind is in fact standing on the threshold of a major turning point in world politics. F. Cossiga conveyed to M.S. Gorbachev and the Soviet leadership greetings and wishes for success in implementing foreign and domestic policy.

O.A. Grinevskiy also visited Austria. On receiving him, Austrian Federal Chancellor F. Vranitzky welcomed the conclusion of the treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles and the new prospects for a fundamental improvement in the situation in the world, particularly for Europe, which are opened up as a result of the talks between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan. He positively assessed the Soviet leadership's efforts in the cause of ensuring peace.

USSR Deputy Foreign Minister V.G. Komplektov was received by Mexican Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda. The Mexican side hailed the conclusion of the Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles and, in the characteristic Mexican spirit of an active and positive foreign policy, definitely advocated the adoption of still more radical measures to lessen the danger of war, reduce international tension, and strengthen trust and cooperation among countries.

A.M. Aleksandrov-Agentov, adviser at the USSR Foreign Ministry, was received by Canadian Prime Minister B. Mulroney. Talks were also held with Canadian Foreign Minister J. Clark. The Canadian statesmen emphasized the tremendous significance of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting and of the Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles signed during the meeting.

The prime minister pointed out that the government and people of Canada regard the agreement reached at the summit meeting as a historic document and as an important step aimed at creating a better, secure world. The treaty signed in Washington signifies the triumph of common sense. Both sides displayed great state wisdom. The treaty might not have happened without the Soviet Union's new constructive approach to questions of disarmament.

The prime minister particularly emphasized the role which M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, played in achieving success at the Washington meeting. What he did during the summit meeting was a truly tremendous feat. It was big politics in action.

In conversation with Ambassador at Large M.D. Sytenko in Baghdad Iraqi President Saddam Husayn evaluated positively the results of the Washington meeting and noted its great significance for starting on and further advancing along the path of nuclear disarmament and reducing international tension.

Turkish Foreign Minister V. Halefoglu pointed out in conversation in Ankara with N.N. Rodionov, adviser at the USSR Foreign Ministry, that the treaty signed by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President R. Reagan, which is evaluated as historic, has been greeted with satisfaction in the Republic of Turkey. Turkey is convinced that the speediest ratification of this treaty will contribute to the cause of strengthening world peace, the minister emphasized.

In conversation in Stockholm with V.P. Starodubov, chief of a sector of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, and N.N. Uspenskiy, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Second European Department, Sweden's acting foreign minister—Lena Hjelm-Wallén, minister for development aid—and representatives of the leadership of the Social Democratic Labor Party of Sweden evaluated highly the Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles signed during the meeting, pointing out that this document is a historic agreement as a result of which one of the most efficient classes of currently existing arms is being destroyed. On behalf of the Swedish population they expressed the hope that the constructive Soviet-U.S. dialogue will be continued in the interests of achieving the ultimate goal—the total elimination of all nuclear weapons on earth.

In conversation with N.N. Uspenskiy in Dublin Irish Deputy Foreign Minister P. Murphy confirmed the Irish side's high assessment of the conclusion of the treaty on the destruction of medium- and shorter-range missiles in Europe.

E. Brunner, secretary of state at the Swiss Foreign Affairs Department, received Ambassador at Large V.B. Lomeyko in Bern. The exceptionally great significance of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles for lowering the level of nuclear confrontation and strengthening international security was noted during the talks. The need to step up efforts in the cause of further reducing arms in the world and strengthening the climate of mutual trust and cooperation was emphasized.

In conversation in Brussels with N.N. Afanasyevskiy, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry First European Department, Belgian Foreign Relations Minister L. Tindemans made a high assessment of the impressive result of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Washington and, primarily, of the Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles.

On receiving N.N. Afanasyevskiy in Luxembourg, J. Poos, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, called the Soviet-U.S. treaty historic and advocated its speediest validation.

Soviet representatives are continuing their meetings with leading figures of foreign countries.

United States & Canada

PRAVDA Notes Dole Support for INF Treaty

*PM231419 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
19 Dec 87 Second Edition p 4*

[Own correspondent V. Gan dispatch: "Which Way the Wind Blows"]

[Text] Washington, 18 Dec—ABC TV today called Robert Dole, leader of the Republican minority in the Senate, "someone who has finally sensed which way the political wind in the country is blowing." Why? In the White House a ceremony has just taken place which is so unusual that no one could find a precedent. Without prior notification, U.S. President Ronald Reagan appeared in the press room with Dole and announced to correspondents: "I welcome Dole's support of the Treaty on Intermediate-range and Shorter-range Missiles and am counting on his assistance in ensuring the ratification of this treaty by the Senate." Confirming Reagan's announcement, the prominent politician and contender for the Republican Party's presidential nomination in his statement promised to "lead the struggle" to get the U.S. Congress upper house to approve the Soviet-U.S. agreement.

Following the summit meeting between the USSR and the United States, many people here have arrived at the opinion of the feasibility of qualitatively new progress not only in relations between the two great powers but throughout world politics. The Treaty on Intermediate-range and Shorter-range Missiles signed in Washington was its herald and inspired people with hope. The mass media clearly testify that the great majority of Americans are decisively in favor of the treaty.

This fact is now powerfully proclaiming its presence in the United States, which is getting closer to the next election campaign, when it is advisable not to disregard people's sentiments. This time the Americans can see more clearly than usual the link between the arms race and personal well-being, between domestic comfort and specific measures to introduce common sense into relations between powerful states on earth. For this reason every presidential contender is not simply obliged to take into account the mood of the voters, but obliged to offer them his own realistic program of cooperation with the Soviet Union in strengthening peace and stability.

Robert Dole's metamorphosis, illustrated by the ceremony in the White House, is noteworthy in this respect. When announcing his intention to seek the Republican Party presidential nomination, he initially banked on the right-wing radicals who have recently dictated Washington's policy. The boldness of the political thinking demonstrated by the Soviet Union has somehow resulted in a situation in which the extreme right, if not isolated in the United States, clearly appears to be in the minority.

Of course, it is to be hoped that the senator's decision is deeply felt and considered, free of purely timeserving considerations. But at the present stage it is too early to talk about this with any certainty.

In other words, it would be premature to announce "the fall of the last bastion" of resistance to a most important Soviet-U.S. treaty capable of paving the way for people to their long-standing aim—a nuclear-free world. Alas, calls can be heard from various nooks and crannies for a "holy war" against the agreement. The "Council for Inter-American Security," the "Conservative Coalition," the "Coalition for Peace Through Strength, the "Council of U.S. Global Strategy," and dozens, if not hundreds, of other groups and organizations are conducting a political propaganda campaign aimed at revising the results of the meeting and blocking all joint measures to retard the arms race. At their instigation a group of ultraconservatives in the Senate is already preparing "killer amendments" supposed to change the content and sense of the Treaty on Intermediate-range and Shorter-range Missiles so as to nullify its carefully discussed and mutually agreed provisions.

Nonetheless, the position that Dole, leader of the Republicans in the Senate, has eventually reached justifies the hope that sensible thinking will triumph on Capitol Hill.

Congress Approves Aid to DRA Rebels, Contras

*LD231718 Moscow TASS in English 1508 GMT
23 Dec 87*

[Text] Washington December 23 TASS—The U.S. Congress has approved a bill on the appropriation in 1988 fiscal year of 52 million dollars for "humanitarian aid" to dushman counter-revolutionary gangs (30 million dollars in the preceding year). But these figures do not give the full idea of the scope of U.S. interference in Afghanistan's home affairs. According to the newspaper WASHINGTON POST, the American law-makers appropriated to these ends from 1983 to 1987 a total of one billion 71 million dollars. The arms supplies, including more than 600 Stinger anti-aircraft missiles which the bandits used to fire not only at air force but also at civilian planes account for the lion's share of the "aid".

Simultaneously the decision was taken on the Capital Hill to grant three billion dollars in aid to Israel, the strategic ally of the USA in the Middle East. Official Washington has made it clear that it continues disregarding world public opinion, which strongly condemns the massive campaign of terror and violence launched in recent days by the Israeli troops in the occupied Arab territories.

Among the other appropriations approved by the U.S. Congress, there is the appropriation of more than eight million dollars to the Nicaraguan contras, 480 million to the government of Pakistan, big sums to the anti-popular regimes of Chile, El Salvador and Honduras.

U.S. Response to Palestinian Protests Noted

LD232309 Moscow TASS in English
2243 GMT 23 Dec 87

[Text] Washington December 23 TASS—TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

A wave of indignation and protests in connection with the shooting of Palestinian Arabs staged by the Israeli military on Israeli-occupied Arab territories and in many Israeli cities has swept the world. The Palestinian Arabs are demanding the return of their native lands and are protesting a policy of massive terror pursued against Palestinians and against the Arab population of Israel. Even the U.S. press whose pro-Israeli feelings are well known carried front-page reports of those developments.

Thus, WASHINGTON POST cited the following figures: Four Palestinians were shot dead by Israeli soldiers last Monday alone and no less than 150 were wounded. According to the U.S. press, a total of 23 Palestinians were killed in the past two weeks. Newspapers published statement of spokesmen of the Command of the Israeli Armed Forces to the effect that in case the 'unrest' continued soldiers had the order to take even 'more resolute' measures.

The reaction of the Washington administration to all-out repressions against Arabs is described here as polite and careful. Spokesmen for the administration held both sides responsible for bloodshed, both Israeli soldiers armed to the teeth and defenseless demonstrators. This is the essence of a statement made by President Reagan in the White House Tuesday at the ceremony of signing a draft law on federal budget allocations for fiscal 1988.

When asked if he found any justification for the actions of the Israelis, the President said: "We think it is regrettable, and our people from our State Department have been talking to both sides". "Israel's leaders say, the journalists continued, that they are not concerned about how the world views the situation, so how do you pressure them?". The President answered: "They might not be concerned, but maybe the world is concerned".

Marlin Fitzwater, assistant to the President for Press Relations, commented in rather evasive words on the killing of the demonstrators by Israeli soldiers. At a regular briefing in the White House he refused point-blank to openly denounce Israel's actions and said that both sides shared responsibility for the violence. He pointed out that the U.S. was taking diplomatic steps with a view to settling the conflict situation. His further statements made it clear what those 'steps' consisted in: The U.S. suggested that Israel refrain from using live cartridges against the demonstrators because rubber bullets or some other means would be preferable.

In the context of this 'humane' recommendation the question arises if rubber bullets are really preferable to live cartridges, because it is the rubber bullets used by British troops in Northern Ireland along with live cartridges that killed dozens of people there.

Abstention on UN Vote Criticized

LD240330 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0240 GMT 24 Dec 87

"Humaneness Washington-Style"—PRAVDA Retort—TASS Headline]

[Text] Moscow, 24 Dec (TASS)—PRAVDA today came out with a retort concerning the fact that the U.S. representative abstained during the voting in the UN Security Council which adopted a resolution roundly condemning the Israeli occupiers' reprisals against Palestinians on the West Bank of the Jordan and in the Gaza Strip. More than 50 Palestinians have already been killed there, over 470 have been wounded, and over 5,000 arrested.

"Neither the White House nor the State Department have explained to the public why he did not make so bold as to raise his voice against the disturbing actions of the Israeli military in the captured territories," writes Yuriy Zhukov, author of the retort.

"Is the United States really so afraid of Israel that it does not dare to take effective steps together with the world community, to curb the Israeli punitive forces?" the writer asks and quotes the official White House spokesman who says that the United States is acting. How? This is how. "We ask (!) for restraint to be exercised in the use of combat cartridges," M. Fitzwater said, and added: 'Rubber bullets or other means would be preferable.'"

Just think, what Humaneness! Hundreds of people in Ulster, Chile, and other places where the struggle for human rights is cruelly repressed, have already experienced for themselves the action of rubber bullets. There many participants in demonstrations crushed by police and troops have been struck dead by them. And now Washington is recommending that Tel Aviv use this experience: Beat, stifle the Palestinian Arabs, only don't use steel but rubber bullets and "other means", as Fitzwater humanely expresses himself. What more encouragement to the punitive forces?

After this it must be clear to all, of what value are the hypocritical sermons of Washington in defense of human liberties and rights in general and the right of holding demonstrations in particular.

U.S., Israel To Develop 'Arrow' Missile

*LD232119 Moscow TASS in English
2100 GMT 23 Dec 87*

[Text] Washington December 23 TASS—"The United States and Israel will go ahead with joint development of Israel's Arrow anti-tactical ballistic missile (ATBM)," the WASHINGTON TIMES reported today quoting military sources.

The agreement on the issue was reached during the visit of the Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to the United States last week and his talks with the new Pentagon chief Frank Carlucci.

The WASHINGTON TIMES wrote today that "the Arrow is a key to Israeli participation in SDI" and also to the Reagan administration's plans to create a space-based anti-missile defence system known as "Star Wars".

Thus, another specific step has been made to attract Israel's scientific and research potential to research within the SDI.

Shevardnadze Receives U.S. Ambassador

*LD231818 Moscow TASS in English 1803 GMT
23 Dec 87*

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS-Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign affairs minister of the USSR, today received the U.S. ambassador to the USSR, Jack Matlock, at his request.

They discussed some issues of Soviet-American relations of mutual interest.

Northeast Asia

Shevardnadze Receives DPRK's Kim Yong-nam

*LD231958 Moscow TASS in English 1928 GMT
23 Dec 87*

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS—Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign affairs minister of the USSR, today met with Kim Yong-nam, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, deputy premier of the Administration Council and foreign affairs minister of the DPRK.

Kim Yong-nam is on a stopover in Moscow on his way home.

The Soviet foreign minister informed his counterpart about main results of the Soviet-American summit meeting in Washington.

Kim Yong-nam observed that the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea regarded the INF treaty as a first real step towards nuclear disarmament that would facilitate the effort to turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone.

The Korean minister pointed out that in the efforts to avert the nuclear threat and create a nuclear-free world, the USSR might count on the DPRK's support.

Shevardnadze said that the Soviet Union would continue to back vigorously socialist Korea's course directed at reducing military-political tension in the peninsula and continuing the constructive dialogue between north and south, the DPRK's proposals for turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone and for a large-scale stage-by-stage reduction of the armed forces in the north and south of Korea.

Antonov Meets DPRK Vice Premier Kim Pok-sin

*PM231355 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Dec 87
Morning Edition p 5*

[TASS report under the "Official Reports" rubric]

[Text] A. K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, had a conversation 17 December with Kim Pok-sin, candidate member of the Workers Party of Korea (WPK) Central Committee Politburo and vice premier of the DPRK Administrative Council, who is here en route from Bulgaria.

They touched on questions of trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK.

Kwan Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversation, which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

Japan's Increased Military Spending Questioned

*LD232203 Moscow TASS in English 2139 GMT
23 Dec 87*

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS—TASS political observer Askold Biryukov writes:

The Cabinet of Ministers of Japan approved today a draft military budget for fiscal 1988. The same as in the current year, military allocations will exceed (?) per cent of the gross national product, a ceiling which limited so far Japan's military buildup. Yasuhiro Nakasone, predecessor of the present head of the Japanese Government who showed special zeal in the sphere of military preparations was the first to lift those restrictions de-facto.

Noboru Takeshita who replaced him on the post of prime minister at first displayed restraint in the approach to this problem. He had to take into account the growing peaceful feelings not only in Japan, which

was promoted by the recent Soviet-American summit meeting, but also in ASEAN member states. Reflecting widespread concern in those countries over Japan's possible turning into a military power, ASEAN leaders spoke with apprehension at their recent meeting in Manila about the growth of Japan's military spendings and the rearmament process which is under way in that country.

One could get the impression that it is the very time for Tokyo urging ASEAN countries to establish the relations of "new partnership" to take into consideration those feelings of nations of the Asia-Pacific region and to reflect them in its policy. However, this did not happen. The draft of a new budget of Japan envisages a further growth of military expenditures which will amount to 3,670.6 billion yen—4.4 per cent up against the level of the current fiscal year. This means that military spendings will exceed for the second year in succession the 1 per cent limit set by previous governments as a kind of proof of the country's defensive policy.

By all appearances, the Japanese Defence Agency is likely to dramatically increase the country's military potential in the current military five-year period. It is planned to increase the number of P-3C anti-submarine planes alone from 29 to 79 and F-15 fighter planes from 86 to 149. Senator John Rockefeller who made a report at U.S. Congress on Japan's military policy pointed out that the growth rate of military spendings in Japan had reached 5.6 per cent in the past five years—three times as much as the NATO figure of 1.8 per cent. He said that the strength of Japan's Air Force exceeded that of all the U.S. air formations deployed in Asia, while the Japanese Navy is about half as big as the U.S. 7th Fleet. Japan has pledged already to ensure operations of U.S. troops outside Japan. On the basis of this statement the newspaper MAINICHI SHIMBUN came to the conclusion that Japan had become already a mighty military power. Even the newspaper JAPAN TIMES which is close to the Foreign Ministry wrote that the decision to lift the 1 per cent restriction for military spendings would go down in history as the first step towards the turning of Japan into a major power of the Western bloc not restrained any more by its constitution.

At the ASEAN summit meeting the Japanese prime minister promised that Japan would never again become a military power. It is not clear, however, how much credence can be given to this promise in view of the practical steps taken by the Japanese Government.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

Shevardnadze Meets Viet Nam's Nguyen Co Thach
BK230629 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1330 GMT
22 Dec 87

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Comrade Eduard Shevardnadze has received his Vietnamese counterpart, Comrade Nguyen Co Thach, in Moscow. During the meeting, they welcomed various issues, such as the political dialogue of the Cambodian groups.

The two foreign ministers welcomed the PRK's efforts toward realizing the national reconciliation policy for the interests of the Cambodian people and for the cause of peace and security in Southeast Asia.

They reiterated the Soviet Union's and Vietnam's readiness to help seeking a solution to the Cambodian conflict.

Chebrikov, CPV's Nguyen Van Linh Hold Talks
LD231559 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1355 GMT 23 Dec 87

[Text] Hanoi, 23 Dec (TASS)—A meeting took place here today between Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Central Committee, and V.M. Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the USSR Committee for State Security, who is currently in Vietnam on an official friendly visit. During the meeting, which passed in a cordial and comradely atmosphere, a broad range of matters relating to the life of the two countries, the work of the CPSU and the CPV, and cooperation between them, was discussed.

Nguyen Van Linh stressed the significance for Vietnam of the revolutionary reforms in all aspects of public life taking place in the USSR, the process of restructuring and democratization, and glasnost, whose foundations were laid at the 27th CPSU Congress.

In an exchange of opinions on issues relating to international life, the fundamental significance of the Soviet-U.S. treaty to scrap medium- and shorter-range missiles, which begins the process to reduce nuclear arsenals was noted.

The success of the talks of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in Washington was a direct result of the coordinated actions of the socialist countries, their cohesion, and persistent and consistent struggle for the implementation of the disarmament program. This was also the common victory of all peace-loving forces struggling against the arms race and for peace and for peaceful cooperation. Full support was expressed for the policy of national reconciliation being conducted by the government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea in the interests of the Cambodian people and the strengthening of peace and security in the region.

The participants in the meeting spoke in favor of the further strengthening and development of cooperation between the CPSU and the CPV, and the USSR and the SRV.

Present at the meeting were Mai Chi Tho, member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and SRV minister of interior, and D.I. Kachin, USSR ambassador to the SRV.

The same day, V.M. Chebrikov and those accompanying him visited the museum of the Vietnamese People's Army. The Soviet guests viewed an exhibition on the glorious historical path and modern day of the armed forces of the SRV. They signed the guest of honor book.

Special Envoy Chaplin Visits PRK, Laos, SRV

For media accounts of the visit of Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Chaplin to Laos, Viet Nam, and Cambodia, including coverage of his meetings and news conference, see the Laos section of the 21 December East Asia DAILY REPORT, the Vietnam Section of the 22 December East Asia DAILY REPORT, the Cambodia section of the 23 December East Asia DAILY REPORT, and subsequent issues.

Details Summit to SRV Leaders

*LD181802 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1320 GMT 18 Dec 87*

[Text] Hanoi, 18 Dec (TASS)—Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee, and Pham Hung, member of the CPV Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, today received B.N. Chaplin, USSR deputy foreign minister, who is in Vietnam as a special representative of the Soviet leadership.

The Soviet representative reported on the outcome of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Washington. The Vietnamese side gave a high appraisal of the tireless efforts of the USSR directed at the halting of the arms race, at disarmament, and at securing peace in the whole world. It was emphasized that the success of the Washington meeting was a result of the foreign policy course worked out at the 27th CPSU Congress and of the new political thinking. The Vietnamese leaders expressed the support for the treaty signed in Washington and for other results of the summit meeting, which represent an important step on the path toward a nuclear- and violence-free world, and toward the setting up of an all-embracing system of international security.

D.I. Kachin, the USSR ambassador to the SRV, was present at the meeting.

Briefs Lao's Phomvihane on Summit

*LD202015 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1900 GMT 20 Dec 87*

[Text] Special envoys of the Soviet leadership have been holding talks over the past few days with heads of states and governments and other eminent political figures of foreign countries. In the course of the talks, the Soviet side forwards its assessment of the summit between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan in Washington and offers an analysis of the impact of those negotiations on development of the international situation.

Today in Vientiane, Kaysone Phomvihane, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, chairman of the Lao People's Democratic Republic Council of Ministers, received Chaplin, a special envoy of the Soviet leadership and deputy USSR foreign minister.

On behalf of the party's Central Committee, the government of the Republic, and the Lao people, Kaysone expressed his full support of the outcome of the Soviet-U.S. summit and notably the signing of the treaty on elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles. The results of the summit offer new prospects in the struggle for peace and resolving disputed issues through talks. The conclusion of the treaty is an historic event, for it is essentially the first real accord on the path of nuclear disarmament, which had become possible thanks to the display of new political thinking, the Laotian leader noted.

USSR-PRK Joint Cooperation Session Ends 21 Dec

Cooperation Agreement Signed

*BK230709 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia
1330 GMT 22 Dec 87*

[Text] The fourth session of the Soviet-Cambodian Inter-governmental Commissions for Trade, Economic, Scientific, and Technological Cooperation was held in Moscow from 16 to 21 December.

During the session, the two sides discussed further expansion of economic relations between the Soviet Union and the PRK. It was noted at the session that with the Soviet assistance, the cooperation in the fields of construction, restoration, and management of various installations in the PRK has further developed.

The two sides agreed that it is necessary to further mobilize forces to make these installations function more effectively and to improve the economic circulation system. They also discussed the program for cooperation in the production of natural rubber in the PRK.

After summing up the outcome of the session which proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and complete mutual understanding, the two sides signed a protocol.

An inter-governmental agreement was also signed on the establishment of a joint enterprise and on the formation of a direct production system by the large and small enterprises and related organizations of the two countries. A another protocol was also signed on the decision to form a joint enterprise in the PRK for the production of natural rubber, latex, and processed rubber, and on the joint program to upgrade the quality of natural rubber.

The Soviet delegation was led by Comrade [name indistinct], vice chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and the Cambodian delegation was led by Comrade Chea Soth, vice chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers.

Chea Soth on Cooperation

*LD221204 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
2300 GMT 21 Dec 87*

[Text] The final documents of the session of the Soviet-Cambodian intergovernmental Commission for commercial, economic, scientific and technical cooperation have been signed in Moscow. Our correspondent Dmitry Morozov reports.

The agreements signed in Moscow are aimed in particular at expanding Soviet-Cambodian cooperation in the area of natural rubber production and also at searching for new forms of this cooperation. For the first time it is planned to have direct contacts between enterprises.

Chea Soth, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers was interviewed by All-Union Radio after the signing of the final documents:

[Begin Chea Soth recording in Cambodian, with superimposed Russian translation] I would like to say that the documents signed in Moscow will undoubtedly lift Soviet-Cambodian cooperation to a new level. Your country has already been providing a great deal of help to the People's Republic of Kampuchea for many years, and this help is particularly substantial in the fields of the economy and trade. Thanks to cooperation with the Soviet Union we have been able to restore our economy over a short period of time. All enterprises which have been restored and built with the help of the Soviet Union are now working excellently, and our cooperation in the fields of electric power generation and rubber production is developing particularly successfully. Under the plans which have been under discussion here in Moscow, direct links are to be established in the very near future between enterprises in the two countries. The direct links in the first stage will cover enterprises producing rubber and rubber goods that are so badly needed both in Cambodia and in the Soviet Union. We hope that mutually advantageous cooperation between the People's Republic of Kampuchea and the Soviet Union will develop successfully. [end recording]

Near East & South Asia

Gromyko-King Husayn Moscow Talks 23 Dec
*LD231832 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1648 GMT 23 Dec 87*

["Conclusion of Soviet-Jordanian Talks"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Dec (TASS)—The talks between Andrey Gromyko and King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan were continued and concluded in the Kremlin today.

Also taking part in the talks on the second day, together with Eduard Shevardnadze, Petr Demichev, Nikolay Talyzin, Dmitriy Yazov, and other officials, the list of whom has already been published, were: on the Soviet side—Yevgeniy Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; and on the Jordanian side—Nabih Shekem [name as received], counsellor at the Jordanian Foreign Ministry.

The sides devoted today to a detailed discussion of the Near East problem, ways of promoting an end to the Iran-Iraq war, and also the state of and prospects for bilateral Soviet-Jordanian relations.

Andrey Gromyko stressed the importance of and need for a solution of the Near East problem based on consideration of the legitimate rights and interests of all states and peoples of that region. The peoples of the Near East have paid a high price over a long period for the consequences of the aggressive expansionist actions of Israel, the stubborn reluctance of its ruling circles to take account of political realities, and the total neglect by those ruling circles of the legitimate rights of the peoples of the region.

All the states of the Near East must live in secure and recognized borders. The Soviet Union's position on the Palestinian question is well-known to the Arabs and to the whole world.

Attention was drawn by the Soviet side to the fact that without the return of all territories occupied by Israel, the restoration of the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights, and the solution of the Palestinian problem in all its aspects, the attainment of a just and stable peace in the Near East is impossible.

In order to resolve this range of questions the USSR invariably advocates the convening of an international conference on the Near East in which all parties concerned, including the PLO—the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people—and the permanent members of the UN Security Council must take part. Untangling the mass of Near East contradictions is not an easy matter, but one must begin, and one must begin by decisively clearing the approaches to the conference.

Of course, it is impossible to predetermine all the details of its work. They will be regulated during the conference itself; it is important to start practical work on preparing and convening it. The Soviet side proposes that the United States and other states should constructively cooperate in this area. Negativism with regard to the conference will not do here.

There are some who have two policies on this matter: one for show, and a second one, as the saying goes, which is for real. The Soviet Union has one consistent policy: it

has always defended the interests of peoples who defend their national independence; it has always opposed the annexation of territories belonging to others and will continue to do so.

The events of the past few days on the occupied Arab territories, where today blood is flowing, prove that the Near East conflict demands an urgent solution. The overwhelming majority of states at the 42d UN General Assembly session again declared in favor of calling a conference on the Near East. Those who determine Tel Aviv's political course should listen to the voice of reason.

In reply to the setting out of the Soviet Union's position on this question, King Husayn stated that at the recent conference in the Jordanian capital of Amman, the leaders of the Arab states unanimously expressed their support for the convening of an international conference and confirmed that the Palestinian problem is the heart of the Near East problem.

It was agreed that the Soviet Union and Jordan will continue to maintain contacts and continue their exchange of views on a Near East settlement.

During their talks the sides discussed the senseless Iran-Iraq war situation, whose victims cannot leave a single sober-minded person unconcerned.

Andrey Gromyko noted that the Soviet leadership has repeatedly drawn the attention of Iran and Iraq to the hopeless nature of the war and has expressed its grave concern over the expansion of its scale.

It has long since been time for those involved in the conflict to sit down at the negotiating table. There is a basis for such negotiations—the UN Security Council Resolution 598.

Unfortunately, that resolution is not yet being carried out. Preparations for fresh offensives at the front is a poor accompaniment for getting closer to a political settlement.

A protraction of the existing dangerous situation will inevitably lead to the possible adoption of additional measures to carry out the decision of the UN Security Council which has already been adopted—namely, Resolution 598.

Andrey Gromyko drew the attention of the Jordanian king to the Soviet proposals on normalizing the Persian Gulf situation—realistic proposals that encroach on no one's interests. States not situated along the Persian Gulf should withdraw their ships, and the United Nations should set up its own naval forces—this is the most

sensible way out of the existing situation. Implementation of the Soviet proposals would undoubtedly stimulate progress in putting into effect the adopted resolution. The trump card would be knocked out of the hands of those political forces which, by opposing peaceful settlement, are building up tension in the Persian Gulf for their own limited ends.

King Husayn has shown that he understands the Soviet approach to the issue concerning ending the Iran-Iraq conflict. Jordan, he stressed, is also interested that peace and good-neighborly relations are restored between the two Muslim countries.

The participants in the talks expressed satisfaction with the present state of Soviet-Jordanian relations and their progress, and that ever since they were established in 1963 they have been constantly expanding, covering ever new areas.

In the political sphere which, according to unanimous opinion, is of special importance, the speakers stressed that the stands of the Soviet Union and Jordan coincide on major international problems; they expressed readiness for joint actions in the name of strengthening peace. As for further development of interaction in this sphere, the speakers noted the importance of extending the basis of political contacts, activating contacts between the parliaments, foreign departments, and other institutions of the two countries.

Andrey Gromyko and King Husayn stressed that Soviet-Jordanian relations are an example of how relations between states with differing political systems can and must be built on principles of mutual respect and noninterference in each other's internal affairs. The deepening and development of mutually beneficial relations in political, economic spheres, trade, and culture serve the interests of the peoples of the two countries.

When analyzing specific areas of bilateral ties particular attention was paid to finding ways of and opportunities for further developing them, primarily in the commercial-and-economic and cultural spheres.

King Husayn expressed gratitude to the Soviet side for their assistance in carrying out geological prospecting work for oil on Jordanian territory, in the electrification of settlements in the country's central regions and the erection of power transmission lines, and in the construction of study centers for the training of technical staff. A coincidence of views emerged during the exchange of opinions in respect of the need to elaborate and introduce new forms of economic links that would facilitate increased effectiveness in cooperation between the two countries.

The sides came out in favor of the creation of a joint commission to study the further development of cooperation between the two countries in the commercial and economic spheres.

A common point of view was expressed on the need to strengthen and further improve scientific and cultural ties between the Soviet Union and Jordan, and the joint desire was expressed to continue the exchange of representatives of scientific research institutes and centers, cultural and medical figures, creative collectives, and sports teams. The importance of expanding the practice of trips by figures from friendship societies, tourist groups, and public organizations was noted.

Summing up the talks, Andrey Gromyko stressed: The work done during the visit, and principally the fruitful conversation between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and King Husayn, give grounds for drawing the conclusion that Soviet-Jordanian relations have received a new boost, stimulating their further development.

The Jordanian side gave an analogous assessment of the results of the visit to Moscow and the meetings and talks which took place, and spoke in favor of continuing a broad dialogue with the Soviet Union and deepening cooperation between the two countries.

The Soviet-Jordanian talks, during which a businesslike and constructive exchange of views took place, proceeded in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Comparison of King Husayn Dinner Speech 21 Dec

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 21 December carries in its Second Edition on page 4 a TASS report on the speech by Husayn ibn Talal, King of Jordan, given at a Kremlin dinner in Moscow held in his honor. The PRAVDA report, entitled "On the Basis of Principles of Mutual Respect," has been compared with the Amman Domestic Service Arabic version published in the 22 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page 26, and reveals the following variations:

Page 26:

Column two, paragraph one, sentence one in PRAVDA reads: It is a great pleasure for me...(omitting honorifics)

Same paragraph, sentence three, line three on page 27 reads: ...appreciation and respect for you. It is my pleasure also to express our thanks... (omitting passage)

Page 27:

Column one, paragraph two, sentence one reads: My visit to your country today comes only a few weeks after your celebration of the 70th anniversary of your revolution, which has raised your great country to the most worthy place it now occupies in our world. You should feel... (omitting honorific, supplying "great" and rewording);

Same paragraph, sentence two, line eight reads: ...influence on the course of events in the international sphere and a prominent role in determining the future of mankind... (substituting "prominent" for "leading")

Same paragraph, sentence three, line eleven reads: ...great admiration the process of reinterpretation and self-analysis which you have begun in order to... (rewording)

Same paragraph, last sentence reads: ...All the nations of the world have every right to celebrate this fundamental first step which will without any doubt open up prospects for further steps to remove the nightmare of nuclear weapons that is our world's calamity. This will release efforts and resource to the urgent process of economic and social... (rewording)

Column one, paragraph two, sentence one reads: Your country set unforgettable examples of steadfastness during World War II... (omitting honorific and rewording)

Same paragraph, sentence three, line five reads: ...Your heroism has become an example worthy of emulation for all world peoples who struggle to... (supplying "worthy of emulation" and rewording)

Column two, paragraph one, sentence one, line two reads: ...legitimacy through your support for the Arabs' rightful cause in the Palestine problem and the Arab-Israeli conflict. We are committed to an approach based on the same principles as your own in the struggle against enslavement and aggression, a common belief in the freedom of the peoples, and the solution of interstate conflicts by peaceful means.

This is the basis of our common views on this problem, the choice of means for successfully solving it, and our call for holding an international conference for peace in the Middle East to be... (picking up with sentence four, line nine, substituting "Arabs' rightful cause" for "Arab right" and rewording)

Same paragraph, last sentence, penultimate line reads: ...achieve a just and all-embracing general solution that is acceptable to... (rewording)

Column two, paragraph two, sentence one, line one reads: ...last month, the Arab leaders confirmed the Arab's sincere desire to seek a just peace in accordance with... (rewording)

Same paragraph, sentence two, line eight reads: ...to guarantee the success of this pan-Arab approach or, to be precise, universal desire for peace and justice. We are convinced of the significance and necessity of your playing an active role in achieving this noble objective in our region which is vitally important to... (rewording)

Column two, paragraph three, sentence one reads: The second issue the Arab leaders focused on... (omitting honorific)

Column two, last paragraph, sentence two, last line reads: ...As you know, Your Excellency, this war has entered... (supplying honorific)

Same paragraph, column one, page 28, last sentence, line four reads: ...efforts to achieve peace and justice but has also deliberately expanded its aggression, threats, and acts... (supplying "deliberately")

Page 28:

Column one, paragraph one, sentence one reads: ...as responded to all good, honest initiatives... ties and establish peace. It has positively peace initiatives launched by the ICO, the Movement, and the United Nations—the latter resulted in the UN Security Council's unanimous adoption of Resolution No 598 issued on 20... (rewording, and omitting "international")

Column one, paragraph two, sentence one reads: Iraq has responded to this resolution which... (omitting "favorably")

Column one, paragraph three, sentence one reads: Taking into account the ominous threat posed by the Iranian... (rewording)

Column one, paragraph four, last sentence, line twelve reads: ...by the UN charter to work unhesitatingly to implement the letter and the spirit of Resolution 598 as an integrated whole in accordance with... (rewording)

Column one, paragraph five, sentence one, line six reads: ...your friendly country will use its international influence and the weight of its authority to implement the resolution... (omitting "effective" and supplying "of its authority")

Column two, paragraph three, sentence one reads: Based on the relations of fellow-feeling and friendship which bind us with you, and our common belief... (omitting honorific and rewording)

Same paragraph, sentence two, line seven reads: ...were pleased by His Excellency the general secretary's recent... (supplying honorific)

Same paragraph, sentence three, line ten reads: ...We also firmly hope that you will soon be able to remove the obstacles preventing a broad-based national reconciliation that will restore the security and stability of Afghanistan so it can resume the march of development and creation as a neutral country as well as... (supplying "firmly" and substituting "creation" for "reconstruction")

Same paragraph, last sentence, penultimate line reads: ...you will make an effective and persistent contribution toward crystallizing this deserving cause. (substituting "persistent" for "influential")

Column two, paragraph three, line eight reads: ...because these relations are established on reliable bases of mutual respect and joint interests and are an example of honest cooperation between states with different... (substituting "reliable" for "entrenched" and "honest" for "sincere")

Page 29:

Column one, paragraph two, sentence one, line two reads: ... meet with you and with your colleagues in the friendly Soviet leadership and to visit your... (supplying "friendly")

Same paragraph, sentence two, line five reads: ...and to welcome you and your esteemed wife in person to express... (supplying "esteemed")

Same paragraph, sentence three, line nine reads: ...your wife, and the friendly people our most ardent congratulations and sincere wishes at this festive time.

King Husayn of Jordan concluded by hailing A.A. Gromyko and proposing a toast in honor of Jordanian-Soviet friendship. (PRAVDA ends; rewording passage)

Bahrain To Receive Stinger Missiles From U.S.
PM221627 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Dec 87
Second Edition p 5

[N. Larionova article under the rubric "Following a Dispatch": "Gift of Stingers"; first paragraph is REUTER report]

[Text] Washington, 17 Dec (REUTER)—The U.S. Congress has adopted a decision to sell Bahrain modern, general-purpose Stinger missiles.

The Bahraini Government's request to be sold 70 Stinger missiles and 16 launchers was turned down by the Senate Appropriations Committee just 2 weeks ago. In the opinion of Senator D. DeConcini, Democrat from Arizona, who submitted a proposal to ban the sales, the Stingers could become a serious weapon in the hands of terrorists.

However, the administration put real pressure on the Senate to annul that ban. Trying to demonstrate the need to sell Stingers to Bahrain, R. Murphy recalled that that country has now been receiving and servicing ships of the U.S. Navy for almost 40 years. "Without assistance from Persian Gulf countries," the assistant secretary of state believes, "the presence of U.S. warships in the Gulf would be impossible."

The silhouette of this U.S. missile resembles a cigar in shape. Perhaps this is why, to use the words of the same Senator Dennis DeConcini in *NEWSWEEK* magazine, "the U.S. Administration gives them out like cigars instead of diplomatic gifts."

Many people are seeking to obtain Stingers. Japan, Saudi Arabia, and Pakistan are purchasing this portable missile from the United States. Italy obtained them for the purpose of using them back in 1983 but never had any intention of returning them. [sentence as published] Afghan dushmans and Angolan rebels get them free of charge, evidently as support in their difficult struggle against the legitimate authorities.

It is characteristic that the U.S. Administration supplies Stingers only to those forces whose policy accords with its ideas on "the peoples' free struggle," that is, to anticommunist, reactionary forces in very different parts of the world.

CPSU's Brutents Holds Talks in PDRY 21-22 Dec
LD231827 Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT
23 Dec 87

[Text] Aden December 23 TASS—Meetings between General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party 'Ali Salim al-Bid and personal representative of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee Karen Brutents, staying here, were held on December 21 and 22.

'Ali Salim al-Bid was given detailed information about the Soviet-American summit in Washington, familiarized with the Soviet leadership's appraisal of the prospects for further agreements on disarmament, possibilities for settling regional conflicts.

'Ali Salim al-Bid expressed profound satisfaction over the signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles which serves the interests of all states. He said Democratic Yemen follows with unflagging attention and admiration Mikhail Gorbachev's tireless efforts aimed at the consolidation of peace, and at the elimination of the danger of thermonuclear war. "Our party and people support the Soviet Union's policy, its vigorous peace drive meeting the aspirations of entire humanity", 'Ali Salim al-Bidh said. He noted that the Soviet Union's consistent line, specifically, its invariable support for the right of all peoples to independent, free development and equal participation in international affairs earned the Soviet Union universal respect and gratitude in the countries that were formerly colonies or semicolonies.

An exchange of opinion on some topical questions of the activity of the two parties was held in a comradely spirit characteristic of relations between the CPSU and the Yemen Socialist Party.

There were also meetings between Karen Brutents and members of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas and secretary of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah.

Agricultural Protocol Signed With YAR
LD172020 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 1515 GMT 16 Dec 87

[Text] Sanaa, 16 Dec, TASS—The second session of the standing intergovernmental Soviet-North Yemeni Commission on Trade, Economic and Technical Cooperation has ended here.

Following this session a joint protocol was signed on expanding cooperation in various fields of agriculture. In particular the Soviet side expressed its agreement to undertake technical and budget estimates for the construction of the Kharid great dam and to study the water basin of the Anis region. Agreement was reached in principle on the construction of a center to repair and operate agricultural machinery as well as on the modernization of the Wadi Surdud agrarian project, and on the drafting of a general plan for the use of YAR water resources. New prospects are opening up in the construction of port facilities, the electrification of rural areas, and the training of North Yemeni cadres both in the YAR and the USSR. Cooperation is planned in the building of the Al-Udayn-al-Jarrahi and Akhim-Kharad roads. The sides reached agreement in principle on the need to raise the capacity of the Bajil cement plant to 500,000 tonnes annually at the first and 1 million tonnes at the second stage.

Demichev Receives Omani Envoy's Credentials
LD181732 Moscow TASS in English 1657 GMT
18 Dec 87

[Text] Moscow December 18 TASS—Nazar Ben Muhammad Ben 'Ali [name as received], ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman, presented his credentials to Petr Demichev, first vice-president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet (parliament) of the USSR, in the Kremlin today.

During a friendly conversation satisfaction was expressed with the process of the establishment of relations between the Soviet Union and Oman and with favorable prospects for their further development.

Soviet Envoy Meets With Algeria's Rabah Bitat
LD221407 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1200 GMT 22 Dec 87

[Text] Rabah Bitat, president of the National People's Assembly of Algeria and Deputy Foreign Minister Mohamed Aberkane held a conversation with M. Sytenko, ambassador at large. They gave a high appraisal of the accords reached in Washington, in particular to the Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles. The Algerian side underlined the dynamic nature of the Soviet Union's foreign policy which played an important role in reaching the Washington accords.

General Tretyak Departs for Visit to Libya

Seen Off by Yefimov

PM221407 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
22 Dec 87 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Visit to Libya"]

[Text] Army General I.M. Tretyak, USSR deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the USSR Air Defense Forces, departed from Moscow for Tripoli 20 December on an official visit.

Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister, and generals and officers saw off Army General I.M. Tretyak at the airport.

M. H. Sha'ban, secretary of the People's Committee of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya People's Bureau in the USSR, was among the sendoff party.

Meets Libya's Air Defense Chief

PM231457 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
23 Dec 87 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Visit to Libya"]

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Dec—The Soviet military delegation led by Army General I.M. Tretyak, commander in chief of the Air Defense Forces and USSR deputy defense minister, which is here on an official visit, visited the Libyan Jamahiriya Air Defense Command Staff and air defense facilities in Tripoli. A friendly conversation took place with Colonel D.A. Idris, commander of the Libyan Air Defense Forces. The Soviet delegation visited the "Al-Hani" cemetery and laid a wreath at the memorial to the heroes who fell in the struggle for Libya's independence.

Soviet Delegation Meets With Egypt's Mubarak
LD211343 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0915 GMT 21 Dec 87

[Text] Cairo, 21 (TASS)—Egyptian President H. Mubarak, welcomes the signing of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles, and called the results of talks between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan a great success for Soviet foreign policy. Speaking at a meeting with a delegation from the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the President expressed satisfaction with the state and development of Soviet-Egyptian political, trade, and economic relations, and scientific and cultural links between the two countries.

The USSR delegation led by V.N. Vinogradov, RSFSR minister of foreign affairs and chairman of the board of the USSR-Arab Republic of Egypt [ARE] Friendship Society, visited Egypt from 14 to 21 December. The delegation had conversations with R. Mahjub, chairman of the People's assembly (Parliament); A. Lutfi, chairman of the Consultative Council Presidium; Y. Wali, Deputy prime minister and secretary general of the ruling National Democratic Party; and B. Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs and chairman of the board of the Egypt-USSR Friendship society. The issues of strengthening friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the ARE and the Soviet And Egyptian peoples were discussed. Officials and public figures of the ARE stressed the sincere feelings of sympathy that the Egyptians have toward the Soviet people.

Rebel Surrenders in Afghanistan Reported

LD231935 Moscow Television Service in Russian
1530 GMT 23 Dec 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast—A. Petrova report from Afghanistan—recorded]

[Text] People arriving in Afghanistan always ask our journalists working here: Have you seen any dushmans? Of course we have, and more than once—when they come to the talks, and those who have been arrested for acts of terrorism and sabotage. They are also among those passing by. Or these here—110 former dushmans; they have now laid down their weapons—a whole arsenal, but it is hard to believe them. Perhaps they have come down from the mountains to spend the winter in the warm climate and to get free food, for there have been a number of instances where such former dushmans have again gone back to their own people. Yet the republic is working with them.

As a rule, it is the small groups which come over to the government's side. The large formations continue the struggle and there are many explanations for this. The main one, of course, is the help which is coming in from various capitalist states. Some 330 foreign advisers and

instructors are today training the dushmans at Pakistani centers alone. Many of them have illegally crossed the borders of the Afghan republic dozens of times.

(Muhammad Raqi), one of the dushmans who surrendered today, told me that he had been fighting in the rebel bands for 7 years. In addition, he was an arms procurer. Foreign advisers from the United States, Britain, France, and Saudi Arabia taught me, like thousands of others, how to handle various weapons, (Raqi) said. They are operating impudently, recruiting volunteers from the Pakistani army and foreigners, offering huge rewards for taking part in combat operations on the side of the bands.

Petrovskiy Briefs Gandhi on Washington Summit
PM221631 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Dec 87
Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Soviet Representative's Meeting With Rajiv Gandhi"]

[Text] Delhi, 17 Dec—Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi today received V.F. Petrovskiy, the CPSU Central Committee general secretary's special representative and USSR deputy foreign minister, and had thorough talks with him.

The Soviet representative briefed the prime minister on the results of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Washington, and expounded the Soviet leadership's viewpoint on the prospects for disarmament and for the settlement of conflict and crisis situations and on the development of the international situation as a whole. High assessments were made of India's constructive efforts, which in many ways contributed to the achievement of positive results at the Soviet-U.S. meeting and, in particular, to the conclusion of the Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles.

During the talks there was an exchange of opinions on the specific questions discussed in Washington.

R. Gandhi evaluated highly the policy of the Soviet Union, which is guided by the new thinking, and its contribution to creating conditions for the emergence of international relations onto a qualitatively new stage. Both sides pointed out that the signing of the Treaty on the Elimination of Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles accords with the interests of all states and raises the level of security, not only within Europe and Asia, but also beyond them. The USSR and India see the realization of this treaty as graphic confirmation of the reality and possibility of building a nuclear-free, nonviolent world, whose principles were formulated in the Delhi Declaration signed by M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi in November 1986.

The firm intention was expressed to strive for new, really tangible deeds in the disarmament sphere and in other areas of creating equal security for all.

During the meeting a high assessment was made of the present state and level of Soviet-Indian relations.

V.N. Rykov, USSR ambassador to India, participated in the talks.

Dobrynin Talks With Indian CPI (M) Delegation
PM221531 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Dec 87
Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversation at the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] On 18 December CPSU Central Committee Secretary A. F. Dobrynin had a meeting with a Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI (M)] delegation headed by E.M.S. Namboodiripad, general secretary of the party's Central Committee, which is in the Soviet Union at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

During the conversation, which took place in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and comradely frankness, there was an exchange of information on a number of questions of the activity of the CPSU and CPI (M), and topical problems of the present world situation and some aspects of the international communist and workers movement were touched on.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary talked about the revolutionary restructuring of all aspects of the life of Soviet society under way in the USSR and about the deepening of the processes of democratization and glasnost. He dwelt in particular on the results of M.S. Gorbachev's visit to the United States, stressing that the Soviet Union will consistently continue the struggle to implement the program of measures on the path to creating a safer, nuclear-free world.

E.S.M. Namboodiripad expressed a high opinion of the Treaty signed in Washington on Eliminating Medium- and Shorter-Range Missiles, which paves the way for completely eliminating nuclear arsenals in the world, halting the arms race, lowering the level of international tension, and creating a genuine climate of trust and mutual understanding in relations between states.

The interlocutors agreed that Soviet-Indian cooperation is an important factor of peace and stability not only in Asia but all over the world. They noted the vital need to bring the principles of the Delhi Declaration into international politics.

The Soviet Union festival in India and the Indian festival in the USSR are of great significance for further strengthening friendly Soviet-Indian relations and bringing our peoples really closer together.

The leaders of the CPI (M) supplied information on the situation in India and on the working people's struggle for their rights.

A.F. Dobrynin stressed that the USSR favors a strong, united India playing an ever increasing role in the international arena.

The sides expressed a high opinion of the meeting of representatives of parties and movements that took place in Moscow during the Great October 70th anniversary celebrations and laid the basis for a broad dialogue for the removal of the threat of war and the solution of other fundamental problems of concern to all mankind.

S. Mukherjee and Kh. S. Surjit, members of the CPI (M) Central Committee Politburo, participated in the conversation.

Commentary Views Indo-Sri Lanka Accord

*BK21210 Moscow International Service in
Tamil 1400 GMT 17 Dec 87*

[Vladimir Yuriy commentary]

[Text] The approach of Christmas is not only indicated by the calendars. Business is brisk in Colombo and other cities. While giving Christmas gifts, it is customary to wish for the fulfillment of those things which had not been accomplished during the past year. Now, it can be believed that such wishes will materialize. New hope has cropped up in the minds of Sri Lankan people after the signing of the Indo-Sri Lanka accord on the ethnic conflict this past July.

The objective of the accord is to put an end to the bloody 4-year-old conflict in Sri Lanka. This conflict has wreaked havoc among the lives of the Sri Lankan people. During this conflict, lakhs of people had to flee for their lives from their homeland to other countries. Farmers were afraid to go to their fields, fishermen did not dare go to sea to fish. During the ethnic conflict, as a result of fierce clashes between Sri Lankan Government forces and Tamil militants, the country's economy has suffered. There was also danger to the sovereignty and solidarity of the country. The need to solve the ethnic conflict at the earliest was before the leaders of the country.

The issue of restoring peace in Sri Lanka also became an issue for improving relations between Sri Lanka and its neighbor, India. It is natural that the people of Tamil Nadu are concerned by the condition of Sri Lankan Tamils. The ethnic conflict lasted for 4 years. These years have proven that it is a vain attempt to solve the problem militarily. However, it has not been easy for the Sri Lankan leaders to devise new measures for solving this conflict. Because of goodwill between the governments it was possible to initiate a process to settle the ethnic conflict politically. These efforts of the Sri Lankan Government received major support from India. India took a mediatory role in improving ties with the Tamil organizations. It was praiseworthy. The intense peace efforts of the two countries reflected the desire of Asian countries to solve existing conflicts politically according

to new thinking based on reasonable measures for peace. The Indo-Sri Lanka accord became an example of this kind of new thinking. We cannot accept the belief by some people that this accord is only suitable to the momentary ideas of the leaders of the two countries. It is clear that this accord is suitable for the welfare of all parties concerned with the conflict.

The general secretary of the Central Committee of the Sri Lankan Communist Party, K.P. Silva, stressed that the idea of Sri Lanka being a government of various races, languages and religions and not a government of a single race, language and religion was reflected for the first time in the accord. According to the accord, the rights of Sri Lankan Tamils will be restored with historic justice.

In his interview with THE NEW YORK TIMES, President Jayewardene admitted that during the past 20 years there was discrimination against Sri Lankan Tamils. As far as the Sinhalese are concerned, the accord removes their fear of division of Sri Lanka. Efforts to bring national integration back to Sri Lanka help get rid of hurdles on the path of socioeconomic development. This is for the welfare of all Sri Lankans.

It can be said that the Indo-Sri Lanka accord incorporates the centuries-old traditions of the Sri Lankan people. Buddhism teaches that there will be real peace when there are no winners and losers. More and more Sri Lankan people are supporting the accord and are condemning the provocations of the extremists. It is quite natural. It is no wonder that the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] has lost support among the people as it is determined to continue its armed struggle even after the signing of the accord. Most Sri Lankan people realize that the continuation of tension in Sri Lanka only favors the enemy forces.

It is a known fact that the Pentagon has attempted to strengthen its military power in the Sri Lanka by taking advantage of the unstable situation in Sri Lanka. It should be remembered that U.S. warships and U.S. military aircraft started visiting Sri Lanka frequently during the conflict. The Indo-Sri Lanka accord prevents Sri Lanka from being dragged into U.S. military schemes. For instance, besides preventing the use of Trincomalee to the detriment of Sri Lankan national security, the accord also bans the Voice of America station in Sri Lanka from being used for military purposes. This accord favorably influences the situation not only in Sri Lanka but also in all of South Asia. AMRITA BAZAAR points out that the number of ships along the Indian and Sri Lankan coasts from countries which are not part of the Indian Ocean region has considerably decreased. There is no doubt that this accord helps strengthen security in Sri Lanka and to set right its internal situation. As Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev stated in the news conference in Washington, reliable security for a country is very important for the functioning of democracy.

While assessing the incidents which occurred in Sri Lanka in the past few months, it is to be noted that there is a definite lacuna between the signing of the accord and its full implementation. However, as the Sri Lankan parliamentarian, D.E.V. Gunasekara put it, it is clear that the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka can only be solved politically. Through this, peace and security can be strengthened in all of South Asia.

Sri Lankan Envoy Presents Credentials 15 Dec
PM181609 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Dec 87
Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Presentation of Credentials"]

[Text] Rodney Clement Austin Vandergert, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, presented his credentials at the Kremlin 15 December to P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

After the presentation of credentials and an exchange of speeches a friendly conversation took place between P.N. Demichev and R.K.O. Vandergert.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Mugabe on U.S. Policy in Southern Africa
LD232154 Moscow TASS in English 2109 GMT
23 Dec 87

[Text] Harare December 23 TASS—The U.S. Administration's loud-mouthed statements about its readiness to cooperate with the Southern African Development Coordination Committee (SADCC) cannot conceal the fact that it is not in the U.S. interests to end South Africa's aggression in this region, Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's prime minister and head of the Non-Aligned Movement, writes in the latest issue of the influential American magazine FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

What the United States fears most is the the spread of communist ideas in southern Africa and is, therefore, building its policy proceeding from this fact, Mugabe says.

A report by the U.S. State Department classifies the growing Soviet influence in the region as the main source of threat to the West. However, it is Washington's political and material support to terrorists and anti-government elements that destabilizes international relations. The fact that the United States is calling these terrorists "freedom fighters" does not change their status at all.

Every year, right-wing American senators do their best to block aid to countries pursuing independent policy, the article says. Thus, all financial aid has been stopped to

Zimbabwe blacklisted by the Reagan administration. [sentence as received] Zimbabwe, however, is determined to defend its sovereign right to pursue an independent policy.

Mugabe questions the sincerity of the U.S. and British positions towards Mozambique. Despite their numerous assurances of readiness to cooperation, the United States and Britain are rendering minimum aid to Mozambique, while Angola is deprived of any aid at all.

East Europe

Hungary Accepts Invitation to 1988 Olympics
PM231517 Moscow SOVETSKIY SPORT in Russian
23 Dec 87 p 4

[TASS report: "Hungarian National Olympic Committee Decision"]

[Text] Budapest—The Hungarian National Olympic Committee has given a positive reply to the International Olympic Committee's invitation to participate in the 1988 Summer Olympics.

MTI reports that the Hungarian National Olympic Committee has declared that it will continue to support the efforts to reach a decision acceptable to South Korea and the DPRK on the joint holding of the games.

The National Olympic Committee also confirmed the composition of the Hungarian delegation to the 1988 Winter Olympic Games. Figure skaters Klara Engi, Attila Toth, and Tamara Teglasi, biathlete Zolt Kovacs, and skier Gabor Mayer will go to Calgary.

Yugoslav Vice President Zemljarić Pays Visit

Meets With Ryzhkov

LD231407 Moscow TASS in English
1343 GMT 23 Dec 87

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS—Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, received Janez Zemljarić, vice president of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia, in the Kremlin today.

Janez Zemljarić arrived in Moscow to attend a working meeting of the co-chairmen of the Soviet-Yugoslav inter-governmental committee for economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

Upon having considered the tasks of the present stage of Soviet-Yugoslav contacts and prospects for the future, the sides expressed a mutual striving to continue to develop these, on a mutually beneficial and equal basis.

The two sides reaffirmed mutual interest in giving greater scope to economic contacts through priority development of more effective forms of cooperation, including production coordination, and the establishment of joint enterprises.

During the consideration of international issues, it was emphasized that the signing of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles was a historic event which opened up a new state in the process of talks on major problems which mankind encounters.

The sides pointed out a growing importance of the internationalisation of the process of disarmament and the need for the participation of all countries in the solution of key problems of our times and in the strengthening of international security.

Tito Exhibition Opens

LD232104 Moscow Television Service in Russian
1800 GMT 23 Dec 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] The exhibition "Tito—Party," dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the beginning of Josip Broz Tito's leadership of the LCY, opened in Moscow today. [passage omitted]

Comrades Zaykov, Medvedev, and Zemljarić, vice president of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council, were present at the opening of the exhibition.

Adm. Sorokin, Military Delegation Visit GDR

PM231903 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian
19 Dec 87 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Political Workers' Visit"]

[Text] A delegation of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate headed by Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Main Political Directorate, visited the GDR at the invitation of the Main Political Administration of the National People's Army.

The delegation of Soviet political workers was received by Army General H. Kessler, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and GDR minister of national defense. A conversation took place with Colonel General H. Bruenner, GDR deputy minister of national defense and chief of the Main Political Administration of the National People's Army. During meetings and talks that took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, experience of party political work in the two fraternal armies during the implementation of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 11th SED Congress was exchanged. The Soviet political workers described the

progress of restructuring that is under way in the USSR and the Soviet Armed Forces and preparations for the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces.

The delegation visited the W. Pieck Military-Political College and a tank unit where it acquainted itself with the life and combat training of GDR National People's Army servicemen.

GDR, CPSU Party Workers Pay Reciprocal Visits

GDR Workers' Visit

PM231208 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Dec 87
Second Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] A delegation of party workers from the GDR headed by E. Fensch, deputy chief of the SED Central Committee Agitation Department, was in the Soviet Union 14 through 18 December.

The German comrades studied the CPSU's experience of mass political work in implementing the 27th party congress decisions, had meetings at the CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department, Leningrad party obkom and gorkom, the PRAVDA editorial office, and the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, and visited a number of enterprises.

CPSU Workers Visit GDR

PM231212 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
19 Dec 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] Under the plan for CPSU-SED interparty ties, a delegation of CPSU party workers headed by L.M. Kuznetsov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Heavy Industry and Energy Department, was in the GDR 14 through 18 December to study the SED party organizations' experience of work to mobilize the labor collectives to ensure economical use of fuel and energy resources.

The delegation was received by G. Mittag, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee.

CPCZ Plenum Resolution on Restructuring Noted

PM231513 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian
23 Dec 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "CPCZ Central Committee Resolution"]

[Text] Prague, 22 Dec—A CPCZ Central Committee resolution adopted at the last CPCZ Central Committee Plenum "On the Comprehensive Restructuring of the Economic Mechanism and Measures To Ensure It" has

been published here. It points out, in particular, that restructuring of the economic mechanism constitutes one of the decisive conditions for the transition of the Czechoslovak economy to intensive development.

Basic methods employed in the USSR are being used to implement the restructuring of the economic mechanism. This will create the preconditions for more consistent, active, and enterprising participation by the CSSR in the emergent process of the restructuring of the CEMA integration mechanism and for the gradual development of higher forms of cooperation between organizations in the CSSR, the USSR, and other CEMA countries.

The restructuring of the economic mechanism in the CSSR will affect all levels of management, all spheres of the economy, and all working people. Its successful implementation is predicated on the expansion of socialist democracy and the implementation of the Communist Party's leading role in directing all processes of restructuring.

The restructuring of the economic mechanism constitutes the most revolutionary change in the management of socioeconomic processes since February 1948. It marks the embodiment of one of the most important tasks set by the 17th CPCZ Congress.

Fish Industry Agreement With Poland Signed
PM231301 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
16 Dec 87 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Agreement Signed"]

[Text] An intergovernmental agreement on Soviet-Polish cooperation in the fish industry was signed in Moscow 15 December.

The agreement was signed by N.I. Kotlyar, USSR minister of the fish industry, and A. Nowotnik, Polish deputy minister of transport, shipping, and communications.

West Europe

Further on Swedish Submarine Intrusions

Ryzhkov DAGENS NYHETER Interview
LD231222 Stockholm International Service
in Swedish 1000 GMT 23 Dec 87

[Text] [Announcer] Today's front page news is the DAGENS NYHETER interview with Soviet Premier Nikolay Ryzhkov prior to his upcoming visit to Stockholm in January. Ulla Lindskog has read the interview. Does it contain any exciting things in these submarine times?

[Lindskog] Well, what is new is a categorical denial that the Soviet Union has violated Swedish territory, apart from what Ryzhkov describes as the unintentional trespass off Karlskrona in 1981. Moreover, Ryzhkov says, the Soviet Union long ago gave its ships orders that in their passage through neutral waters they must not go near Sweden's territorial borders. He also guarantees that no vessels from other Warsaw Pact countries have violated Swedish waters. Produce some proof, if you have any, then we can discuss the matter, says Ryzhkov.

Ryzhkov speaks instead about an anti-Soviet campaign by Swedish circles, which are not interested in improved relations between Sweden and the Soviet Union.

Nikolay Ryzhkov has no plans to cancel his visit to Sweden, but he tells DAGENS NYHETER that it will not be so pleasant to visit Sweden 20 days after the publication of the commander in chief's report. Our hands are clean, Ryzhkov stresses in the interview in DAGENS NYHETER.

In an editorial today, the paper itself comments on this statement as follows: In a wounded tone Nikolay Ryzhkov says that the visit to Sweden will probably not be so pleasant under the present circumstances. But the declared assurance of the Swedish Government that violations occur and the realigned collection of indications against the Soviet Union by the group of analysts of the commander in chief will undeniably make the meeting somewhat strained. It is good if the Soviet premier realizes that he cannot expect merely a pleasant chat with the little neighbor, says the independent newspaper DAGENS NYHETER.

PRAVDA Ridicules Claims
PM231607 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
20 Dec 87 Second Edition p 5

[A. Boldinyuk "Rejoinder": "With Bait on the Submarine"]

[Text] Submarines crop up in the Swedish press from time to time. Judging by recent newspaper reports, one can even conclude that submarine hunting occupies the Swedes far more than the traditional pursuit of fishing. There is no other explanation for the fact that, on instructions from the military department, an entire fleet of fishing vessels spent several days combing the calm waters off Goteborg in an attempt to catch a submarine. It is not known what kind of tackle the fishermen used—net, spoon, or spinner—but they returned empty-handed. Neither the special helicopters nor the warships with the most up-to-date equipment were of any help to them.

The military, incidentally, are great lovers of this kind of "fishing." Hans Hofsten, a representative of the Swedish Naval Staff, for example. A true fisherman, he has not been able to resist the temptation to publicly talk about the enormous herrings, that is, submarines, which slip his department's net. The further you go, the worse it

becomes: Now Hofsten is even saying that "the Soviet Union is preparing to attack Sweden." To back up this absurd statement he cites the fact that some "submarine equipment" has been detected in Swedish territorial waters.

As far as this "well-known specialist on defense issues" is concerned, it is also clear that this "equipment" is being used to explore offshore waters with the intention no more and no less... of preparing to invade the country. This high-ranking fisherman needed this kind of conjecture to demand additional government allocations for the fruitless search for mythical submarines which has been going on for decades.

Bait alone is not enough, as you well know....

Italy Refuses 'Full Acquittal' to Bulgarians

*LD231711 Moscow TASS in English 1605
GMT 23 Dec 87*

[Text] Rome December 23 TASS—I cannot but express my disappointment with the decision of the court which shows that Italian justice lacks courage to establish the truth in a trial of great significance, said prominent Italian Lawyer Giuseppe Consolo, commenting on the verdict passed by the Rome Appellate Court in the case of the attempt on the life of Pope John Paul the Second staged by Turkish neo-fascist Ali Agca in May 1981.

The court has left unchanged the verdict passed earlier acquitting Sergei Antonov and two other Bulgarian citizens, who were slandered by the terrorist, with the wording "for insufficient evidence." In the course of the current trial the Bulgarian side demanded full acquittal of all the three Bulgarian citizens and recognition of their total innocence.

Unfortunately, G. Consolo, who is Sergei Antonov's defense attorney, went on to say, the current decision is a result of interference of politics in judicial practices. Nobody doubts that according to all legal rules the Bulgarian citizens should be fully acquitted without any reservations.

The "Bulgarian connection" has passed out of existence, the Italian agency points out in that connection. The whole course of the appeal hearings has shown that the Bulgarians were not involved in the "plot" to kill the pope.

The agency draws attention to the fact that the verdict of the appellate court was carried on the basis of the demand of Deputy Attorney General of the Republic Antonio Albano who was one of the initiators of the arrest of Sergei Antonov and the holding of the many-month long trial in court, which outgrew into a long show with the participation of the Turkish terrorist with "his controversial statements." Then the court acquitted the Bulgarian citizens, yet doubts left which the latest trial was to dispel.

"The sentence passed earlier caused distrust in justice in many people, yet we all hope that the new trial in court would help overcome it," newsmen were told by Lawyer Manfredo Rossi. We are sure of the total innocence of the Bulgarian citizens, that they were not involved in the attempt on the pope, the more so that in the course of the investigation not a single proof against them was found."

London TIMES Article on INF Treaty Protested

*LD232226 Moscow in English to Great Britain
and Ireland 2000 GMT 23 Dec 87*

[Text] There is unflagging interest all over the world in the INF Treaty signed in Washington. In the following commentary Yevgeniy Ivanov looks at some of the points raised by the London TIMES in connection with the treaty. This is what he writes:

In brief, the paper's attitude can be assessed as negative. It is not satisfied with the Soviet Union's readiness to destroy its warheads in a ratio of 4:1 against U.S. warheads. It would be a good addition, the TIMES says, if the Soviet people and their leaders renounced their social system and their ideology. Now it may sound ridiculous yet it is this kind of demand that the British paper puts forward as a basis for dealing with Moscow. And the demand is not new. For the first time it came from THE TIMES 70 years ago, following the revolution in Russia. True, at that time official London did not receive Soviet leaders the way it does today. THE TIMES is supplementing its key demand to the Soviet Union with a number of charges. Among these that the Soviet Union is preparing to attack Western Europe and this is the only reason why it needs the treaty on missiles.

There isn't only aggression in Moscow's plans, but creeping Finlandization of Europe. A treaty on missiles, the British paper claims, is a nuclear Munich. This treaty is not a step to a nuclear free world but a step to world domination by the Soviets. Too many political leaders in the West are afraid of the Soviet Union and therefore they agree to accept anything Moscow will offer them. No doubt the paper was referring among others to the President of the United States, the British Prime minister, the French president, and the chancellor of Federal Germany.

Attempts are being made to insult the memory of those who died in battles fighting nazism, that is, Soviet people, Britons, and Americans. In fact, THE TIMES is putting the Soviet people and the Nazis on the same plane, and here it would be to the point to remember the words the prime minister said at the Kremlin last spring about the trials and exploits of the Soviet people she'd followed with admiration in the years of that war. What is there, however, behind the political obscenities that have appeared in THE TIMES? It is nothing but fear—fear in the face of the prospect of an improvement in international relations. And this feeling prompts a super task to impose an arms buildup on the Soviet Union in order to exhaust it and lead it to an economic and social

collapse. Yet, as the CIA has found out on the basis of thorough research, the Soviet Union in slightly more than 3 decades caught up with the United States in armaments and raised its living standards more than threefold.

It is probably much more preferable to respect facts and try to overcome chronic instincts, although it is obvious that the advanced age of these anti-Soviet instincts of the British veteran paper counting from 1917 doesn't hold much promise of success in curing the patient.

Mitterrand Welcomes Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty
LD232131 Moscow TASS in English 2111 GMT
23 Dec 87

[Text] Paris December 23 TASS—French President Francois Mitterrand welcomed the conclusion of the Soviet-American treaty on eliminating intermediate- and shorter-range missiles and described it as "good" in his interview with the Antenne-2 television company today.

Mitterrand was interviewed on board the French aircraft-carrier Clemenceau, the flagship of the French naval squadron in the Persian Gulf.

The French president said that now when the parity of forces had been ensured, the Soviet Union and the United States should continue the disarmament process. However, he ruled out France's participation in disarmament until the Soviet Union and the United States substantially reduced their arms.

Mitterrand pointed out that the Soviet Union had advanced a number of useful disarmament initiatives and the United States had also taken definite steps, which had engendered the current processes. He stressed that the Soviet Union was offering disarmament, not threats, as a means to achieve its goals.

The French president spoke in favour of developing integration within the European Community and promoting military cooperation among West European countries, specifically, between France and West Germany.

Having reported that the French squadron's mission in the Persian Gulf was not yet over, he expressed France's interest in seeing the Iran-Iraq war end.

Mitterrand Meets With Sihanouk 18 December
PM231202 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Dec 87
Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Meeting in Paris"]

[Text] Paris, 18 Dec—French President Francois Mitterrand is supporting efforts toward a political settlement of the Cambodian problem. He stated this during a meeting here with Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Addressing journalists after the meeting, N. Sihanouk reported that, contrary to the decision taken earlier, he intends to resume talks with Hun Sen, chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers. These talks are to begin in January in the Paris suburb of Saint-Germain.

Commenting on Sihanouk's statement, AFP and the French press note that the prince attributed his former rejection of further contacts with the PRK representative to the fact that the two other opposition Khmer groupings have not yet joined in the talks. He told Hun Sen this in a telegram.

In a message to the Cambodian people disseminated by the agency SPK [Sapordamean Kampuchea] on 12 December, the chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers stated that "people in Cambodia understand" the motives for this decision. At the same time, he reaffirmed the PRK's readiness to continue both multilateral and bilateral talks to seek a reasonable settlement of the Cambodian problem.

AFP, citing Sihanouk's statement, notes that this circumstance, as well as the "negative reaction of the ASEAN countries to the prince's intention to refuse further consultations with Hun Sen," were the reason for his present decision.

Raimond's Remarks on Divided Europe Censured
LD232031 Moscow TASS in English
2005 GMT 23 Dec 87

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS—By TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev:

French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond made a peculiar analysis of the situation which developed after the Second World War in the centre of Europe where two German states, the GDR and the FRG, now exist.

One gets the impression from his interview to the West German newspaper "PASSAUER NEUE PRESSE" that the current French leadership is most of all concerned not over the fact of the existence of international border between the two German states, but over the prospect of rapprochement between the GDR and the FRG on a basis of peaceful coexistence, lowering of the level of military confrontation and development of fruitful cooperation.

Raimond's involved deliberations about "unification" of Germany, his assertions that such developments are unlikely bespeak of his real fear of "neutralization" of central Europe, of the prospect that the FRG will cease being NATO's nuclear powder keg. The French foreign minister naturally prefers not to recall the history of the creation of two German states. It is well known, however, that back in 1944 the then U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau suggested that Germany be

partitioned into several states, its industry eliminated and the newly formed countries turned into agricultural appendages of Western powers. Winston Churchill went along with that plan.

The Soviet Union was never mixing up the German people with the Nazi regime. At the Yalta and Potsdam conferences the USSR declared that a united, sovereign and, above all, peaceful German state should be formed on the basis of denazification, democratization and demilitarization. But the forces whom a peaceful version of Germany's revival did not suit, that have not lost the hope to gain from the animosity of the Soviet and German peoples prevailed in the West.

It is the United States, France and other Western countries, not the Soviet Union, that are to blame for the split of Germany. However, immediately after the formation of a bizonie, a trizone and then of the FRG on the territories of the Western occupation zones, many Western politicians started shedding crocodile tears over "the USSR's course at splitting Germany and Europe into half." Jean-Bernard Raimond now joined those politicians.

It remains a fact, however, that there exist now two German states whose reality has been recognized by international treaties. They have moral and political values of their own, different socio-political systems. Both states have learned the lessons of history and are now able to make considerable contribution to the solution of the problems of Europe and the whole world.

Touching upon the problem of two German states, Mikhail Gorbachev writes in his book "Perestroika: New Thinking for Our Country and the Whole World": "History will decide what will be in a hundred years. But so far one should proceed from the existing realities and should not engage in incendiary speculations."

Latin America & Caribbean

Ortega Accuses U.S. of 'Sabotage Tactics'

LD232100 Moscow TASS in English
2020 GMT 23 Dec 87

[Text] Managua December 23 TASS—The U.S. has adopted sabotage tactics with regard to ceasefire talks between the Sandinista People's Army and the contras which are held in accordance with the Guatemala agreement on the establishment of durable peace in Central America, Daniel Ortega has stated. In his speech made last Tuesday the president of Nicaragua pointed out that the decision of U.S. Congress to approve the allocation of another 8.1 million dollars to the Contras, as well as the recent terrorist attack of the CIA mercenaries on three miners' townships in the north of Nicaragua were obviously aimed at disrupting a peaceful settlement in the region.

Ortega held the U.S. Administration responsible for this bandit raid of the contras as a result of which 16 Nicaraguan civilians were killed and 75 wounded. He said that the criminal attack on the miners' townships had been staged with a view to "producing an impression" on U.S. Congress. "Those who voted for new allocations for the contras stained their hands with blood", the Nicaraguan president pointed out. The "offensive" of the Somoza gangs launched for propaganda purposes turned into their crushing defeat. Defenders of Nicaragua did not let them capture the townships and killed in action some 100 mercenaries, Ortega said.

Havana December 23 TASS—The second round of talks on ceasefire in Nicaragua held in the capital of the Dominican Republic was to no avail because the contras refused to hold talks with representatives of the Nicaraguan Government according to a formula coordinated with them before with the mediation of Cardinal Obando-y-Bravo. Specifically, the counterrevolutionaries did not wish to meet international advisers invited by the Nicaraguan Government for settling technical problems.

The talks were disrupted on the order of Washington which counts on the continuation of the war in Central America. This was stated at a press conference in Santo Domingo by Victor Tinoco, head of the Nicaraguan delegation and deputy minister of foreign affairs of Nicaragua. He pointed out that despite the opposition of the U.S. the Nicaraguan Government would continue its quest for ways to achieve a peaceful settlement of the regional crisis. The Nicaraguan delegation suggested that another round of the ceasefire talks be held on January 7 through 10, next year.

U.S. Seeks To Thwart Guatemala Agreement

LD232019 Moscow TASS in English
1843 GMT 23 Dec 87

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS—TASS political news analyst Nikolay Chigir writes:

Under strong pressure of the U.S. Administration the House of Representatives passed another decision to earmark 8.1 million dollars to the contras, as American aid. One is only to be surprised at the step taken by Congress which, as was shown by the Irangate scandal investigation, was unceremoniously deceived by the administration in the question of rendering financial and military support to counterrevolutionary gangs, hired by the CIA and other Washington secret services for warfare against the Sandinista Government. The Irangate has shown that to further their imperial aims in Central America, and also in other regions of the world, the U.S. ruling circles, by-passing Congress, resort to such methods as bribery, arms sale machinations, links with mafia, with international terrorists and the assassins, who the former "National Guardsmen" of the Nicaraguan dictator Somoza are.

The majority of American congressmen seemingly did not wish to make the necessary conclusions from the Irangate scandal and having voted for more than 8 million dollar allocation for the Somoza thugs thereby supported the Washington administration's operations which run counter to the U.S. legislation and international law norms.

It can now be stated with full ground that Washington deliberately undertakes to frustrate the Guatemala agreement aimed at establishing durable and lasting peace in Central America. It is to be recalled that in November, exactly the day when the Guatemala agreement came into effect, the U.S. House of Representatives allocated for the contras gangs 3.2 million dollars, and now come another 8 odd millions. This is the outright sabotage of the agreement reached by the presidents of five Central

American countries, the action directly aimed at thwarting it, at preventing any peace political settlement in the region. One of the main items in the Guatemala agreement provides for termination of any aid, overt or covert, to American mercenaries—the Somoza men.

These and other actions of Washington in Central America, including the latest round of the malicious anti-Nicaraguan campaign, deliveries of up-to-date combatant planes to Honduras, a bridgehead for waging the undeclared war against Nicaragua, show that in Washington they do not intend to heed the voice of reason and step on the path of political settlement of conflict situations in Central America, in line with the demand of the Latin American states, the world community as a whole, including U.S. allies in military blocs.

Political & Social

Shcherbitskiy Addresses Kiev Gorkom Plenum AU221141 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 15 Dec 87 pp 1-2

[RATAU report on a Kiev Gorkom plenum held in Kiev on 12 December: "Making Fuller Use of the Restructuring Potential, Improving the Style of Work"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The plenum participants were addressed by V. V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee first secretary.

Having set a firm course at revolutionary restructuring in all spheres of socialist society, he said, our party assumed a great responsibility. In the broad historical and general political context, the tasks of deepening restructuring were specified in M.S. Gorbachev's report at the jubilee celebrations in Moscow and in his speech at the subsequent meeting of party and movement representatives.

The entire pursuit of restructuring and of shaping a new political thinking has been given a new impetus, both in the theoretical and in the practical respects. The results of the third Soviet-U.S. summit meeting held in recent years have been the first real effect of new approaches established in the international arena, an effect of our peaceful offensive against the threat of a thermonuclear war.

The conclusion of the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of their Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles has become an event of enormous historic significance because this treaty has met the cherished hopes and aspirations of all peoples. It has not only initiated nuclear disarmament, not only has changed the strategic situation in Europe, but has also become a real step toward examining other vitally important international problems, including those linked with the improvement of Soviet-U.S. relations.

At the Berlin meeting, our Warsaw Pact allies fully approved the Soviet-U.S. accords, which had been previously coordinated with them.

Like all Soviet people, the Ukraine's people have received the results of the Soviet-U.S. talks with deep satisfaction, and will undoubtedly do their utmost to increase their contribution toward strengthening the might of our socialist state.

Comrades, preparations for the 19th All-Union CPSU Conference have developed throughout the party and in the republic's party organization. The party committee plenums and the meetings of Communists, which are now examining accountability reports rendered by elective organs on their work in control over restructuring, are part and parcel of these preparations. This highly

important political campaign shows that the activity of the Communists and of all working people in the republic is increasing, and that their aspiration to successfully accomplish tasks, whose complexity and significance at the new stage of restructuring have immeasurably increased, is intensifying.

The plenums and meetings are taking place in an atmosphere of expanding glasnost, of growing exactingness with regard to cadres, and of irreconcilability to shortcomings. If one assesses the course of this campaign as a whole, it is indisputable evidence that the changes in the necessary direction are obvious and are gathering momentum, primarily in the matters of democratization, of radical economic reform, and of work among cadres.

Evidence of this are also the results of work in the republic's national economy.

According to preliminary data, the main national economic targets for the first 2 years of the 5-year period will be met. The growth rates achieved in industrial production and labor productivity have exceeded the plan. The targets for the output of coal, iron and manganese ores, for the production of ready rolled stock, coke, mineral fertilizers, and many kinds of consumer goods are being met and exceeded. Economic indexes are improving at most enterprises. In the current year, the overall grain yield exceeded 50 million tonnes, or 7 million more tonnes than in 1986. The purchases of grain, meat, milk, and other agricultural produce have exceeded the plan. Nonetheless, the supply situation is complex, particularly in oblasts which were affected by the drought. It is essential to speed up the rate at which production is increased, primarily the production of meat and milk.

The social program is also being implemented with success. The targets set under the 5-year plan for putting into service houses, hospitals, polyclinics, and other facilities for cultural and service purposes are being exceeded.

At the same time, many processes—particularly those involving the switchover to the new economic management conditions—are proceeding in a complex way and, in different sectors and at different places, unevenly. Machine building and light industry are lagging. Arrears in the contracted supplies of goods are growing, and the quality of goods is improving slowly. The situation in capital construction and transport is particularly disturbing. Retail turnover and paid services to the population are falling short of the plan.

All this is evidence that changes for the better are taking place slowly, and that the necessary breakthrough still has not been accomplished on the whole front. It is the

duty of party and administrative organs, as well as of economic services to find out what is the matter, who and what is hampering these processes, and to release the brakes.

The Central Committee and the republic's Council of Ministers are examining the situation and taking additional steps to remedy the situation in sectors that are lagging. The same is also being done by the gorkom and the gorispolkom. But the results of this work still cannot be found to be satisfactory.

The causes of the existing shortcomings and the ways of speeding up democratization and socioeconomic development will be thoroughly examined at a plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, which will discuss, in January 1988, the Central Committee Politburo's report on the work performed in control over restructuring.

As far as the situation in the city party organization is concerned, the appropriate analysis, the gorkom's accountability report, and the speeches made today by the comrades make it possible to conclude that, in the style and methods of work performed by the obkom bureau, there have been changes for the better, but in the pursuit of restructuring still there are also unsettled tasks. This, approximately, was also the conclusion drawn by a group of functionaries of the CPSU Central Committee departments who recently examined the activity of the city party organization. The gorkom bureau, raykoms, and the gorispolkom were quite right to set about eradicating in a businesslike way and without waiting for the gorkom's report to our party's Central Committee, the shortcomings, which have also been noted today by Comrade Ye.A. Razomov. The bureau and Comrade K.I. Masik, gorkom first secretary, have begun to rely more firmly on raykoms, have advised them more frequently, and have strengthened assistance to basic party organizations. This was also what I was told by the Communists during my talks and meetings at the "Arsenal" plant production association and at the special design and technology bureau of the V.M. Glushkov Cybernetics Institute of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences.

However, it was correctly noted today that what has been done is still a long way from matching the tasks confronting the capital city's party organization.

The gorkom does not always have sufficient ability to single out the main things and to carefully trace the ways to accomplish urgent tasks. Sometimes it lacks persistence and purposefulness in pursuing the objectives set. It has not managed yet to mobilize all party committees and basic party organizations in the city for restructuring. For this reason it has failed to ensure progress in all sectors, and this was self-critically admitted both in the accountability report and in the speeches made by the plenum participants. Subsequently, efforts—painstaking efforts—are needed in many fields.

The accomplishment of the complex tasks set for the second stage of restructuring, whose essence consists in implementing everything that has been planned, will depend primarily on the dynamism of restructuring in the party organization itself.

The CPSU Central Committee is now orienting us toward a definite change in the functions of party committees and toward an increasingly complete assertion of political methods of control. Under the condition of the further democratization of the life of society, it is essential to learn to accomplish complex tasks not by issuing commands and by substituting for administrative and economic organs, but by developing and guiding the social activity of the masses, and by organizing and coordinating their efforts through party organizations, through cadres.

But precisely in the work performed by the city party organization among cadres there are many omissions and shortcomings, and there is a lack of long-term planning which is so necessary in this sphere. There are no real reserves for leaders of many crucial sectors. For this reason, when there is a need to reshuffle cadres, a feverish search for candidates frequently begins. This is what happened, in particular, when the need arose to reinforce leadership in Moskovskiy and Zaliznychnyy Raykoms. This has become a rule in construction and other organizations in the city when they exchange their leaders. Cadre reserves are frequently being shaped without a previous discussion in party organizations. All this is evidence that the gorkom bureau, and primarily the gorkom secretaries responsible for this important matter, Comrades K.I. Masik and S.M. Martynyuk, as well as bureau member Comrade A.S. Yakovenko, are in no hurry to give up the old approaches which have not proved themselves.

The gorkom bureau must be bolder in promoting democracy and glasnost in cadre work, and must make better use of the potential of the city party organization. Significantly more attention has also to be paid to cadre training.

At many enterprises which have, from the beginning of the year, switched over to full economic accountability and self-financing, the indexes of economic activity have deteriorated. There were several reasons for this. But one of the major ones was that nobody took pains at the right time to teach team leaders, foremen, and shop chiefs the fundamentals of economic accountability relations, and to improve their economic training. This error is still being repeated now when another large group of enterprises is switching over to economic methods of management. The gorkom and raykoms have actually lost control over the way the middle echelon, enterprise workers and their trade unions are preparing for this switchover. This must be remedied immediately. After

all, the effectiveness of economic reform will be determined by the degree to which the new economic methods of management are mastered by all, from director to laborer.

In recent times, a great deal has been said in the gorkom about new forms of work. This is good: quest and experiment are essential. But this must not become an end in itself, a campaign. Also the tested forms of work, which have proved to be viable, must not be forgotten. Everything must serve its purpose, must work for the final result.

But what often happens in practice? As you know, the gorkom bureau has recently examined reports by a number of secretaries and department chiefs, by the gorispolkom chairman and all his deputies. But if one is to judge their work from city newspaper reports on gorkom bureau sessions, one gains the impression that they are all failing to cope with their commissions, that each of them has on his record nothing but failures. The natural question arises: why then have they been left in their posts?

Such an approach is hardly useful. An accountability report and constructive criticism are essential, but they must be followed without fail by concrete steps to eliminate the shortcomings noted, about which people must be extensively informed. It is also highly important to take care of cadres. It is essential not only to increase their responsibility for the work sectors with which they have been entrusted, but also to encourage their independence, initiative, and boldness in decisionmaking, to give everyone an opportunity to reveal his or her abilities. After all, the tasks set for restructuring have to be accomplished, for the most part, with the cadres we have at our disposal. And they have to be valued, respected, and assisted in rising to the level of the present requirements. This applies in particular to functionaries in the medium and the lower echelons. But there must be no lingering when it is evident that a leader (at any level) is unfit, the more so when he is unwilling to work under the conditions of democratization and of the new economic mechanism. Such functionaries must be resolutely replaced.

Comrades, the gorkom bureau, raykoms, and basic party organizations must redouble their efforts to ensure that a new level is attained in socioeconomic development.

No matter how bitter it is, we must admit that Kiev has given up its position as an important scientific center, and has to some extent lost its reputation in accelerating scientific-technological progress. The role in mobilizing scientific-technological programs is hardly evident. In 1986, the economic effect obtained from applying scientific-technological elaborations at city enterprises only amounted to R581 million against the planned R703 million. This had to have an impact on technical standards and the quality of products.

In recent times the proportion of high-quality products has even dropped, particularly at the enterprises of Darnitskiy, Moskovskiy, and some other rayons. It is absolutely intolerable that in Kiev, which has such a powerful scientific and production base, not a single tape recorder, color television set or radio receiver has been certified as a high-quality product.

This point was already subject to discussion at the April 1987 Kiev Gorkom plenum. But things have not moved an inch. It is hardly believable that, as regards the proportion of high-quality products, Kiev is 19th among the republic's oblasts. Quite a few seminars have been held, and quite a few measures have been mapped out. But, as we can see, there have been no changes for the better. The conclusion is that efforts were futile.

The problem of reducing manual labor also remains acute. In the city's industry, only 18 workers have been freed per 1,000 certified workplaces, fewer than in Voroshilovgrad, Dnepropetrovsk, Zaporozhye, and Kharkov Oblasts, and even below the republic's average.

In this respect, very poor progress has been made in construction. The situation in this field is very disturbing. For example, in the Glavkievgorstroy [Kiev Gorispolkom Main Administration for Housing and Civil Construction], only 33% of workplaces have been certified, and it has been established that 70% of them did not meet the present requirements.

This is evidence that the gorkom bureau has not thoroughly analyzed the causes of the situation that has emerged, and in eliminating shortcomings, it relies rather on administrative and voluntarist methods, on various conferences and sessions. But what is needed is resolute action, concrete organizational work in labor collectives. This was correctly noted today by Comrades I.A. Chub, I.N. Saliy, and other speakers.

Bureau members, and primarily Comrade K.I. Masik, must draw appropriate conclusions. The impression arises that, in recent times, Comrade N.N. Sergeyev, gorkom secretary responsible in the bureau for these sectors of work, instead of new initiatives, has begun to manifest indecision occasionally, has slackened in a way. I think, Comrade K.I. Masik, it is necessary to examine what is the matter and to help Comrade N.N. Sergeyev recover.

Comrades, as of January 1988, a new stage will begin in economic reform. More than one-third of the republic's enterprises, credited with 55% of the total industrial output, will work under the conditions of full economic accountability and self-financing. At the beginning, unforeseen difficulties and contradictions may arise. To cut their number short, it is essential to think over all details and to act resolutely.

The gorkom bureau, all party organizations, administrative and economic organs, and, of course, primarily enterprise leaders must once again scrutinize the readiness of enterprises for work under the new conditions. This was noted in the accountability report. But it is to be emphasized once again that particular attention must be paid to the shaping of economic norms and state orders, to the conclusion of agreements on goods supplies, to the adoption of the new conditions of labor remuneration and of economic internal production accountability, and to improvements in the financial situation of enterprises. It is particularly important now to create in labor collectives a sound and creative atmosphere. All these tasks have to be accomplished effectively and comprehensively, as we go, and, what matters most, no time must be wasted.

The gorkom and the gorispolkom must be systematic and more persistent in accomplishing tasks involving improvements in living, working, and consumer conditions for the inhabitants of Kiev. After all, there are serious complaints about the state of affairs in the social sphere. This has been the point raised in many letters received by the Central Committee.

This applies primarily to housing construction and the conditions of housing resources. Some 17 incomplete houses have not been included in the 1988 plan, and this jeopardizes the 1989 plan. In the city's central districts alone, there are 500 houses which urgently need repair, while only 12-15 buildings are being repaired annually. To increase the scope of work, it was necessary to strengthen the repair and construction base of organizations a long time ago. But this has not been done.

Many residential districts lack children's play areas and sports grounds, and have few places for the recreation of their inhabitants. The participation of industrial enterprises in settling problems concerning services and amenities, as well as in the development of appropriate municipal services continues to be insufficient.

Year in and year out, municipal services prove to be poorly prepared for the winter season. Even now there are dozens of dug up heat relay pipelines and streets not asphalted. Just a little snow in November immediately caused trouble in passenger transport.

It is primarily the gorispolkom that is guilty of the situation that has arisen. Its leadership uses old yardsticks, and there is no evidence of a genuine effort to get out of the rut.

Many years ago, the most important questions concerning the city's life were reserved for the gorispolkom. But at present, when Kiev has significantly expanded, municipal services are obviously unable to cope with them, and rayons have no facilities to repair houses, the water supply network, and roads. As early as last year

rayispolkoms proposed that a number of municipal services be decentralized in a rational way, but this proposal still has not been examined. No one knows what fate it has met.

Particularly responsible for all these shortcomings is first of all Comrade V.A. Zgurskiy, gorkom bureau member and gorispolkom chairman.

You, Comrade V.A. Zgurskiy, must radically change the style of work performed by yourself and by the gorispolkom. In recent times, you have been postponing decisions on a number of pressing problems, you have manifestly limited yourself to simply exercising the functions of the chairman. Rayon and enterprise leaders are complaining they are unable to reach you even by telephone.

There are also serious complaints about gorispolkom deputy chairmen.

Criticism was addressed at this plenum to the gorispolkom's leaders by Comrades B.V. Soldatenko, S.A. Vegera, and A.A. Mokrousov was fair, and correct conclusions have to be drawn from it.

Comrades, under the conditions of developing democracy and expanding glasnost, when persuasion is becoming the main method, the role of ideological, mass political work has significantly increased. The CPSU Central Committee has repeatedly called our attention to the need to conduct this work in close relationship with life, to take a fuller account of the needs and interests of people, and to more efficiently respond to new trends and phenomena in intellectual life.

The entire educational work must be aimed today primarily at the shaping of a political ethos among people, and at a radical economic reform based on the firm foundations of democratization.

As is known, the interest of the public, and particularly of young people, in questions concerning culture and our history has increased. Quite a few ideas and proposals with regard to the development of the city's intellectual life and the organization of interesting leisure time have been raised by our scientists, writers, and art figures. This is good. It is also necessary to rely on this activity. However, as Comrade V.L. Makarov and other speakers emphasized, Comrade V.I. Mikhaylovskiy, gorkom secretary, and the gorkom's ideological departments are not always abreast with events and with the growing needs of city inhabitants. For example, the republic's government has taken into account the wishes of the public and resolved to create the "Ancient Kiev" historical and architectural preserve. But a number of problems are being handled slowly, and sometimes in an incompetent manner.

The plans could be implemented by the efforts of the city's inhabitants. But this is not being done. And the interest in Kiev, in its unique monuments is particularly growing in connection with the coming millenium of the introduction of Christianity in Rus.

It is to be kept in mind that culturological [kulturologicheskiye] problems frequently prove to be the target of political speculation. At present, when many questions are subject to sharp controversies, the initiative is frequently being assumed by informal associations, including ones with a questionable basis.

No unprincipled attitude may be assumed to cases in which some comrades, including party members, use glasnost and developing democracy as a pretext to interpret and highlight our difficulties, shortcomings, and individual historical events in a biased way, in the spirit of sensationalism, and without making any constructive proposals.

In ideological questions, a wait-and-see attitude is intolerable, the more so in a critical period. Restructuring has to be fought for. Communists, and above all leaders, must defend the party line in a well argued and persuasive way, and must resolutely combat any attempts to use the processes of democratization and glasnost for purposes which are far removed from the tasks of restructuring.

Comrades, many sharp problems accumulated in the city's life were noted in the accountability report and speeches. The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee and the republic's government will assist in settling them. But the main role in accomplishing the tasks set for the socioeconomic and cultural development of the republic's capital city has to be played, of course, by you yourselves, by all the city's Communists and working people. For this reason it is highly important to intensify work at every level, from the gorkom bureau to the basic party organization, to increase irrecconcilability to shortcomings, and to resolutely strive for appreciable changes for the better.

It is essential to pay more attention to advanced experience, to gather, literally grain by grain, and to make use of everything valuable that emerges in the course of restructuring.

In working out decisions and in implementing them in practice, it is necessary to boost the role of gorkom members. To belong to an elective party organ is not only a great honor, but also high responsibility.

A significant improvement is also needed in the work of the gorkom apparatus. Brisk and daily work in basic party organizations and labor collectives should be the main purpose of every party worker's activity. And what matters in this activity is to time corrections, advice, encouragement well, and not only to look for shortcomings.

Today, when the practical implementation of everything that has been planned is being brought to the fore, the organizing role of the party and of every Communist is assuming decisive importance.

Let us hope that, mindful of criticism and assisted by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, the gorkom will be able to do everything that is needed so that the capital city's party organization is always and in every respect equal to the tasks of restructuring, to the requirements of our times.

Chardzhou Obkom Secretary Resigns After Plenum
PM231117 Moscow TRUD in Russian 18 Dec 87 p 2

[Report by own correspondent A. Dzhapakov: "Starting Point: Notes From the Chardzhou Turkmen Communist Party Obkom Plenum"]

[Text] Chardzhou—The situation in Chardzhou Oblast clearly shows how following the slogan "The plan at any price" quite often leads to people being overlooked and serious omissions occurring in the social sphere and ideological work.

A highly unsatisfactory moral and psychological atmosphere persists in the oblast and social ills have become exacerbated. Here is just one recent case that rocked the republic. Shortly before the plenum, at which the Chardzhou party obkom bureau reported on its work to lead restructuring in the oblast, a bureau session with the following agenda was held: "The murder of Kh.D. Rozybayeva, instructor at the party obkom Administrative Organs Department." The bureau resolution was published in the local press. It stated that the crime was organized by A. Dzhepbayeva, acting prosecutor of Kerkinskiy Rayon, together with Militia Colonel Kh. Soltanov. Kh. Rozybayeva had previously established that A. Dzhepbayeva was taking bribes and tried to put a stop to the illegal actions of Kh. Soltanov, whose dissoluteness and imperious attitude to those around him had not previously encountered effective resistance. Commentary here is superfluous...

Vestiges of the past are still strong in the oblast and are responsible for quite a few crimes. These cases were given a principled party assessment in the report delivered by R. Khudayberdiyev, first secretary of the party obkom, and in the speeches, which indicates the acuteness of the struggle now.

The first steps toward democratization and the expansion of glasnost have been taken. Labor collective councils are being set up at enterprises and the election of leaders and reports by them to their labor collectives are increasingly being practiced. However, the main speaker was forced to acknowledge: "We have not yet succeeded in removing bureaucracy and dogmatic modes of thought and action."

The stereotypes that became ingrained in the party obkom's work style over the decades are incompatible with today's restructuring. One of the most dangerous stereotypes that is liable to have grave consequences is that the plan comes first and people after.

V. Kuznetsov, excavator operator at the "Zeyidgidrostroy" Construction and Installation Administration, said in his speech that "we are working well and meeting our targets but are living badly, we have been completely forgotten. Our settlement is 50 km from the city of Kerki, the rayon center. But there is no road and our wives give birth in trucks trying to reach the rayon hospital across country."

T. Babayev, oblast health department chief, said in his speech: "Our hospital bed provision is above the republic average. But 80% of our medical establishments are located in adapted premises. I went to Khalachskiy Rayon recently and was shown an unfinished hog farm unit and told: 'We'll hand this over for you to use as a hospital, you finish off the construction work, and adapt it for your purposes.'"

M. Achilova, weaver at a silk combine, was right when she said that the masses judge leaders' activity primarily by the conditions people live and work in. Her suggestion that obkom bureau members travel to work by city bus at least once a month produced a stir in the hall.

Many speakers commented on the obkom's recent remoteness from the actual, everyday needs of the working people. Obkom secretaries, as in the past, rarely meet with collectives and are still poorly informed about the opinion of workers and kolkhoz members on topical questions of life in the oblast. One reason for this was given by E. Achilov, first secretary of Chardzhou party gorkom, namely, the authoritarian leadership style characteristic of party Obkom First Secretary R. Khudayberdiyev. This style was copied willy-nilly by other leaders.

However, this was the only speech in which an attempt was made to specifically analyze the work style of particular CPSU Obkom Bureau members. Criticism amounted mostly to mere generalities and no assessment was made of the human or organizational attributes of bureau members. Nor was there any such analysis in the report.

In general, for all the acuteness of the facts cited in the report and speeches, there remained a firm impression that the plenum was not a success for frankness. Most speakers ended their speech at the rostrum, as a colleague of mine from the local press bitterly joked, with the "ritual incantation": "I want to assure you that our collective (party organization) will fulfill its tasks (plans, pledges)."

The desire to gloss over shortcomings and water down discussion on particular questions was also visible in the speech by Kh. Dzhumbayeva, obkom ideology secretary.

Certain failings in ideological work in the oblast have already been mentioned. To which let us add the fact that the report also spoke about the still tenacious traditions of nepotism, clannishness, and national arrogance.

Kh. Dzhumbayeva spoke about the events held by the Obkom Propaganda and Agitation Department, the poor attendance at classes arranged as part of the party education system, and so forth.

Speakers also avoided the important topic of party leadership of the oblast trade unions. In the report it rated a mention just as part of a list: "There are shortcomings on the part of party, soviet, trade union, and other public organizations." Features of the obkom's work style, of which mention has already been made, were also reflected here. Lack of consideration for the activity of trade unions, after all, is lack of consideration for working people's specific interests.

The plenum organisers set up two "roving" microphones in the hall, but this proved merely a gesture to fashion: No one used them and not one reply was made from the body of the hall. It was clear that people are not yet used to frankness and are simply afraid to say aloud, to the whole hall, what they rapidly whisper to one another.

But let us not be too hasty to blame them. Restructuring in the oblast is under way, albeit perhaps with a delay. Responsibility for this lies with its leaders. "More than 2 years have passed since the April (1985) CPSU Plenum," S. Niyazov, first secretary of the Turkmen Communist Party Central Committee, said. "It is no longer possible to blame others. It is time everyone assumed personal responsibility."

The plenum met Obkom Party Secretary R. Khudayberdiyev's request that he be released from his post and membership of the bureau. The fact that such a request would be made was known in the republic party Central Committee prior to the plenum. But to the surprise of the plenum participants, the Central Committee Bureau members who had come to Chardzhou did not insist on their own nomination.

The Central Committee first secretary said: "We do not have a nomination ready for this post. And it is probably a good thing that there is not one. Think about it yourselves. Haste here would only do harm. Think. Let us put this question to the next plenum. The Central Committee will not make any decisions at all on such an important question without careful analysis and consideration of the opinions of the obkom members."

This move played, I think, a decisive role in ensuring that the plenum did nevertheless mark a starting point for a new stage in restructuring that promises to be more dynamic. The following are the words of T. Krizhevskikh, a Chardzhou heating engineer, whom I asked to give her impressions of the plenum on its completion: "I

now appreciate more than ever before that the coming changes for the better are in earnest." It merely remains to add that everyone whom we spoke to that day—workers and party and trade union personnel—was of like mind.

First Anniversary of Kazakhstan Events Marked

AU231059 Sofia POGLED in Bulgarian
Issue No 51 21 Dec 87 p 10

[Askar Nurmanov article: "What Happened in Kazakhstan and Why Did It Happen?" specially dispatched through NOVOSTI]

[Excerpts] For nearly a year the Savitskiy family have been keeping Sergey's picture in their home without any sign of mourning. "We do not have the courage to tell Dima, his 4-year old son and my grandson, that his father is no longer alive," says Nadezhda Savitskiy, Sergey's mother. [passage omitted on the killing of Sergey Savitskiy, a member of the voluntary people's squads, during the Alma Ata demonstrations of December 1986.]

On 17-18 December 1986 a group of students and youths in Alma Ata, instigated by nationalist elements, went out in the streets to express their disapproval of the election of Genadiy Kolbin as first secretary replacing the 74-year Dinmukhamed Kunayev, who had retired. Some of them carried posters with the slogan: "Every nation must have its leader," and chanted "Kazakh, Kazakh." Later in, the extremists among the young people provoked mass unrest on the streets and squares of the city: They smashed shop windows and overturned cars, setting fire to them, and forced other Kazakh youths to join the crowds in the squares. When members of the militia forces and of the voluntary people's squads arrived in order to protect law and order, and came to the rescue to defend the honor and dignity of the people, they were attacked with stones, metal bars and batons.

As we know, law and order was restored. Now the events are calmly being analyzed.

How can they be described? In the first place we must point out that the events in Alma Ata have nothing in common with the feelings of Kazakh people generally speaking. In the history of the Kazakh Communist Party 17 people have been first secretaries, and only 2 of them were Kazakhs—the others were of Russian, Ukrainian, Jewish, Armenian, and Uygur origin—and never has their succession provoked any unrest among the masses.

As a matter of fact, how can we speak about nationalism, since the Kazakh people owe all their achievements in the economic, scientific, cultural, and social spheres to the socialist system, to the friendship among the peoples of the USSR? [passage omitted].

I asked Dosmukhan Kshibekov, a well-known Kazakh scientist and corresponding member of the national Academy of Sciences: Where do you see the reasons for the December 1986 events in Alma-Ata? [passage omitted]

Bribe takers, thieves of state property, and other criminal elements, who through various methods, managed to obtain responsible posts, and under the conditions of general prosperity, openly disregarded the law, committed antisocial acts, provided prestigious jobs for their relatives and friends, and evading the law, presented them with state-owned dwellings, keeping hundreds of comfortable guest houses and hunting lodges for themselves, while the housing problem of the republic was deteriorating from year to year—these were the people who profited from the events in Alma-Ata. Afraid that they would be unmasked, these people tried to divert public attention from their own acts. It was precisely such people who spread rumors about "Kazakhstan feeding Russia" and tried to indoctrinate the immature youngsters that "our people are being insulted" and so forth. [passage omitted]

The attempts at provocation organized by the nationalist elements failed, but the damage caused by the December 1986 events in Alma Ata is still being felt. The most important thing is that the faith of certain parts of the population in social justice was undermined. This damage can only be repaired by consistent and persevering efforts, a just solution of social problems through glasnost, further democratization, and punishment for those who are guilty. This was done throughout 1987.

Most students and youths who participated in the December demonstrations in the square, but did not disturb the peace, realized that their actions were incorrect and are peacefully pursuing their work and studies today. Those, however, who committed excesses, participated in beating up people, or setting automobiles to fire, and fanned nationalist hostilities—suffered their well-deserved punishment. [passage omitted]

Vorotnikov Interviewed on RSFSR, Restructuring

AU161036 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
11 Nov 87 pp 1,7

[Interview with Vitaliy Ivanovich Vorotnikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, by RUDE PRAVO chief editor Zdenek Horeni: "Firmly Along the Path of Changes"—in Prague "on the eve of the opening of the Days of the Russian Federation in the CSSR"]

[Text] [Horeni] The Russian Federation is a huge republic, which plays an important role in the life of the entire Soviet Union, in the development of its economic and intellectual potential. What are the main directions of the implementation in the RSFSR of the program for the acceleration and restructuring of the national economy?

[Vorotnikov] It is possible to name several fundamental directions which are being implemented in the restructuring of the republic's national economy; which incidentally are, the same as throughout the country.

First, there is the acceleration of the scientific-technical progress. We emphasize building and expanding perfect engineering systems and modern technologies, which will ensure a more rational utilization of resources, growth of labor productivity, and increased quality of production. We are seeking effective organizational forms for a speedy introduction of the latest results of science and technology. At the same time we are perfecting the structure of scientific institutes and trying to better coordinate the scientific work of academic, branch, and university-level worksites.

The second direction is to raise the effectiveness of the economy by restructuring it. The development of technological engineering, high-quality metallurgy, chemical industry and, understandably, the branches manufacturing quality goods, have priority. The fuel-energy base is being strengthened and measures aimed at increasing the stability of agriculture are being carried out.

The third direction, a very important one, is the introduction of the new economic mechanism. This year three ministries of the republic are already working under the conditions of total economic accountability and self-financing. Their number will triple next year, and enterprises shifted over to the new conditions of management will be manufacturing more than half of the industrial production.

The government of the republic actively addresses the perfection of the organizational structures of management and strives so that they will be in harmony with the economic methods of management. What is mainly involved is the restriction of the intermediary ties in management and the reduction of the number of people in the central apparatus, the elimination of parallel structures, the ensurance of conditions for the local soviets to be able to fully realize their broader powers in economic life. It is understandable that in this we are trying to take into consideration the great variety of conditions in our republic, the specifics of management in the individual autonomous republics and oblasts, the multinational structure of the population, local traditions, and other circumstances.

An active social policy and a consistent assertion of the principle of social justice, too, are instruments for accelerating restructuring.

[Horeni] Democratization affects all aspects of your country's life. On what does its further expansion depend?

[Vorotnikov] Restructuring in the economy and democratization, of social life are two aspects of the same process.

Democratization is one of the most important and most necessary prerequisites of restructuring, its motor, its essence, its most solid guarantee. The process of radical changes in the economy is directly connected with democratization. At the same time, the development of democratization directly depends on how the restructuring in the economy will proceed, in which the material base is being created for the realization of broad rights of citizens in the production, social, and other spheres.

It is possible to say without exaggeration that today we are taking the greatest step on the road of the development of socialist democracy in the past 70 years. The evidence of this is the unprecedented upsurge in the Soviet people's civic activities. Nevertheless, this step is not without difficulties.

The beginning of the democratization process comes against certain difficulties and resistance, which are sometimes unexpected. The indifference of the administratively directive methods of management and of bureaucracy are being felt, and there also exists certain uncertainty and indecisiveness in practical issues.

What is to be done about it? In his speech at the solemn session marking the 70th anniversary of October, M.S. Gorbachev stressed that, first, it is necessary to create a reliable and flexible mechanism for a genuine involvement of all working people in the solution of the state and social affairs. Second, that it is necessary to learn and teach democracy in practice, and cultivate a modern political culture of the masses.

We abide by this spirit in the political as well as in the economic, social, and intellectual spheres. We put our hopes, in particular, on the Law on State Enterprises (Associations), which will become effective on 1 January 1988. This law considerably expands the rights of the working people and their influence in the vital sphere of the social life—in the economy.

[Horeni] Like sputnik, the term glasnost has become an international term. To what extent does the work of the RSFSR's soviets and economic agencies correspond to the principles of glasnost—that is, to the public being informed [verejne informovanosti] and to open [otvarena] policy—and how does the Russian Federation implement it in its activity?

[Vorotnikov] Glasnost, open assessment and solution of all, even the most difficult problems of our life, is one of the most characteristic features of the new moral-political atmosphere. In such an atmosphere, people—when their feeling of responsibility for public affairs strengthens—are more actively expressing their civic standpoints. Lenin's words that the state is stronger when masses know all, when they can assess everything, and are doing everything with awareness, are being distinctly affirmed.

One can say that the principle of open policy and the flow of information to the public ever more markedly shows in the methods of work of a number of local soviets. Their sessions are public now, they are being held with broad public participation. Materials concerning the discussed problems are being published in the local press, and any citizen, after having acquainted himself with them, can take part in a public discussion or voice his view in writing.

The spreading of the flow of information to the public is also helped by the fact that ranking personnel of all levels are regularly reporting about their activities to the working people nowadays. Such meetings involving discussions on economic and social problems are frequently important.

It is only natural that local information media, too, are being used extensively in the interest of the public being informed. What is, above all, being regularly published is information about the fulfillment of the plan of the social and economic development, about issues discussed at sessions of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet and its Presidium. Members of the government, ranking personnel of ministries and of the individual ministerial departments have begun to appear in the press much more frequently. Radio and television broadcast their speeches live on issues which interest the population, and reports on meetings with the working people in which they account [skladaji ucty]. The significant thing is that even the nature of information itself has changed, as it has become more objective, more critical, and more self-critical.

That, of course, does not mean that we have made use of all existing possibilities when implementing the principles of the public being informed. Moreover, the old bad habit occasionally crops up—the dilatory solution of problems which concern people's vital interests. From that, then, arise rumors and false conjectures, rivers of letters to various agencies. To put it concisely: the atmosphere of public being informed [verejne informovanosti] and openness in politics needs constant support, seeking new forms and methods for informing the working people.

[Horeni] The development of the RSFSR's non-black-soil zone [necernozemni pasmo] is of great importance for the Soviet economy. What measures have already been adopted in this respect, and what are the prospects?

[Vorotnikov] The non-black-soil zone has really a great production, scientific, and cultural potential. It has almost 3 million square kilometers inhabited by 63 million people, produces 50% of the republic's industrial production and is, at the same time, a mighty agricultural region.

For a number of historical reasons and circumstances, this region has found itself—compared with other regions—in a much more complex situation. In view of

its growing role in the solution of the food program, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers—on the proposal of the Russian Federation—have been adopting measures on the further development of agriculture in the RSFSR's non-black-soil zone in recent years. These documents are an important impetus for transforming the non-black-soil zone into a region of highly efficient plant and animal production. The material-technical base of kolkhozes and sovkhoses has considerably strengthened thanks to the steady growth of investments. An extensive range of measures is being implemented aimed at improving the fertility of soil, at developing the production infrastructure of the agro-industrial complex, and at road-building. The pace of the countryside's social restructuring has been substantially accelerated.

What are the results of these efforts? In 1986, agricultural gross production—compared with the average production in the ninth 5-year plan, when the foundations were laid for the non-black-soil zone's transformation—increased by more than one-fourth. The non-black-soil zone, which has only one-fifth of the republic's total agricultural land, accounts for one-third of agricultural production.

We have not succeeded in realizing all plans, however, above all because our policy in the non-black-soil zone was not comprehensive. We did not always take into consideration the proportions in the development of agriculture and industry; the construction industry was developing more slowly than necessary; there were shortcomings in the amelioration activity; and a lag occurred—and this is especially serious—as regards the solution of social problems. Now everywhere there is stress on the construction of apartments, of cultural and health facilities, and on services. We are paying more attention to road construction; the plan up to the year 1995 envisages ensuring kolkhozes and sovkhoses hard-surface roads within their areas and the considerably expanded use of electricity and natural gas in production and services. The planned measures will make it possible to ensure a systematic upsurge of this important sphere.

[Horeni] The Soviet Union has recently been paying attention as never before to the protection of the environment. The RSFSR has Lake Baikal—the largest reservoir of drinking water in the world, and other similar water reservoirs. Could you tell us something about the experience acquired from environmental protection in the RSFSR?

[Vorotnikov] The protection of nature and the rational use of its resources is one of the main economic and social tasks in our republic. The state as well as enterprises earmark considerable resources for these purposes. In the past 5-year plan and in the 2 years of the current 5-year plan alone, the RSFSR devoted more than R37 billion for the protection of nature, a sum which is comparable with the resources expended for the development of one entire branch.

This great endeavor rests on important legislative acts. In accordance with the Constitution, our republic passed a number of laws—the Agricultural Code, the laws on the protection of water resources, forests, raw material resources, atmosphere, environment, and others. One of the soviets' important roles is to check their strict observance. In addition, a system of state agencies for the protection of nature has been set up.

I can say that with joint efforts we have succeeded in substantially improving the condition of the atmosphere and waters. The pollution of the environment by harmful industrial wastes has been reduced. The wastes ending up in streams were reduced two and half times in the past 12 years. Many rivers and sea coasts are cleaner now. The content of harmful substances in the atmosphere has been considerably reduced in more than 200 cities and industrial centers.

The most urgent ecological issues are being publicly assessed nowadays, and then—taking into consideration the majority opinion—concrete solutions are being adopted. For example, last year work was halted on reversing the flow of European northern rivers into the country's southern regions, despite the fact that considerable resources had already been expended by then. This year resolutions were adopted on the protection of Lakes Ladoga, Onega, and Ilmenskoye and the area of the Lake Baikal, and a number of production operations causing harm to environment were closed down.

At present we are working out in our country state programs for the protection of the environment and the rational use of natural resources in the 13th 5-Year Plan and up to the year 2005. We are convinced that the program will enable a more purposeful and more effective work in the protection of nature and its wealth. This is important for the present as well as for the future generations of Soviet people.

[Horeni] A number of industrial and other enterprises in the RSFSR have direct relations with Czechoslovak partners, or are trying to establish them. What, in your opinion, could be done to make these relations more effective?

[Vorotnikov] Dozens of enterprises and organizations of the Russian Federation have direct relations with Czechoslovak partners. Certainly, their influence on the development of economic cooperation is still hardly noticeable. We think that they could be much more effective if we would transform them into a consistent production cooperation. The important thing is to make more extensive use of the two sides' scientific-technical and production potential for the joint production of high-quality goods that are in demand in the two countries as well as on markets abroad.

There is no doubt that we have to keep on developing also other future-oriented forms of integration, establish joint ventures and international associations. The

exchange of products between enterprises and organizations of the domestic trade sector and consumer and other cooperations open great possibilities for the enrichment of the range of goods in which there is an exceptional interest.

I would like to stress that the ongoing reorganization of the foreign trade activity in the Soviet Union and the provision of extensive powers to enterprises and branches enables us to more effectively develop and improve new as well as the traditional forms of cooperation.

Finally I would like to make use of this opportunity and convey to RUDE PRAVO readers best wishes from the working people of the Russian Federation. We hope that the Days of the Russian Federation in the CSSR, which have just begun, will catch the Czechoslovak public's interest and contribute to strengthening further the friendship and cooperation between our two countries.

Burlatskiy Interviewed on Lenin's Legacy
AU271415 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian
3 Nov 87 p 7

[Tomislav Milinovic report on interview with Fedor Burlatskiy, deputy chairman of the Soviet Association of Political Science: "There Is No Universal Model"—place and date not given]

[Text] Moscow, November—From its beginning, the new socialist society has never been idyllic. After the victory of the October Revolution 70 years ago there were two trends in the Bolshevik party, which argued not only over the choice of road to a further building of the first socialist state, but they could not agree on what socialism is in general. Speaking on the theme of "messages and lessons of October today," our guest, Fedor Mihailovic Burlatskiy, writer, publicist and deputy chairman of the Soviet Association of Political Science, said that the two strands at that time found their own practical realizations in the concept of, on the one hand, "war communism" and on the other, "the new economic policy".

To introduce our guest to our readers in a few words: Burlatskiy has received the unofficial compliment both at home and abroad that his is "the first pen of restructuring" [Russian word "perestroyka" used]. Burlatskiy, a former professional worker in the party's Central Committee and writer of a series of analytical articles and substantial publications, untiringly explains to the world the contents and aims of restructuring and before we spoke to him "we stood in line". We waited until he had given an exclusive interview to the American television company CBS.

A Return to Lenin's Legacy (subhead)

Fedor Burlatskiy continues: "Lenin's political genius understood the danger in the concept of 'war communism' and realized the need for a new approach to socialist construction. In the theoretical article 'Cooperation,' Vladimir Ilich wrote that the stance on socialism must change. Above all, this concerned the relationship toward the countryside and the peasantry. Lenin pointed out the usefulness and necessity of the founding and development of cooperative firms on a completely voluntary basis and supported the implementation of the principle of material stimulation in production, as well as pluralism of thought in the fields of culture and information.

"In my opinion, it is necessary for us to return to Lenin's legacy and his last works in which he gives us the basis and stimulus for the development of the concept of our present revolutionary reforms," Burlatskiy says. "Of exceptional significance is the reaffirmation of a Leninist selection process [lenjinsko sito] in the party leadership and in the strengthening of party democracy, as this is the most important condition for the development of democracy in society as a whole." Our interviewee reminds us of the fact that Lenin was simply a born polemicist: he not only put up with opponents but wanted to argue with them, as this enabled him to develop and sharpen his own thinking. "All this did not stop the leader of the October Revolution from finding effective solutions after heated discussions in the party, the Central Committee, and the Politburo. Lenin attached special importance to the need to develop democracy among the masses and he respected their interests, opinions, judgments, and criticisms. Our glasnost and democracy are derived from these Leninist times, they are inspired by these origins, but, of course, on a new basis and under new conditions."

What is socialism today, what is happening in the world of socialism now, and how will socialist processes continue to progress?

In reply to this question, Burlatskiy first says that for the phrase "socialism today" it is worth having in mind the large group of socialist countries in Europe and Asia as well as those countries with a socialist orientation in other continents. He stresses that all these countries are faced with one basic problem, the problem of modernization and further development on the basis of the contemporary technological revolution.

Speaking about this problem at a news conference held on the same day as this conversation, he mentions that the term "model" was introduced in the West in order to try to contrast the experience of the construction of socialism in individual countries, like in the USSR and China.

Accomplishment and Not Defect [subhead]

However, it is essential to find the model which is the most democratic and the most humane. Socialism is not retained only in the countries which at one time decided on such a social order. It is included in social democratic and many other movements which "lean" toward socialism or apply some socialist principles. This diversity can be interpreted only as an accomplishment and not as a defect. Our interviewee points out that Lenin foresaw that real socialism is born on the basis of the experience of several countries and not of just one.

"Therefore, particular value is attached to the comparing of experiences in reconstruction, modernization, and reforms in various socialist countries—in the USSR and China, in Czechoslovakia and the GDR, in Hungary, Bulgaria, and Yugoslavia. Such comparisons are especially important for us since a number of countries—including Yugoslavia—have walked along a great, practical road in the implementation of reforms. It is important that we recognize both accomplishments and new problems in order to learn lessons," Burlatskiy remarked.

The socialist movement is present in both capitalist countries and countries of "the third world." Therefore, dialogue is necessary with all parties and groups without exception and, above all, a dialogue on peace, the halting of the arms race, and the problems of the fight for progress in the world. Of particular significance are the reconciliation of attitudes and the rallying of joint forces in order to surmount class differences, to reduce the differences in the level of development between developed and developing countries, as well as to establish a new economic and information order in the world."

Fedor Burlatskiy concludes: "This dialogue does not exclude mutual criticism. Now more than ever, we hear criticism of our experiences. However, this does not mean that we do not agree with this criticism in everything, rather, it means that we extract the 'rational seeds' from it. We have firmly rejected the black and white picture of the modern world, particularly of the socialist movements. These movements are variegated and diverse, and we would like to see in each of them more good than bad."

Briefs

Lithuanian Official Elected

A Lithuanian Republican Trade Union Council plenum was held today in Vilnius. It discussed, inter alia, an organizational question. Comrade Maksimovas was elected chairman of the trade union council. Previously he worked as chief of the Industry Department of the Communist Party of Latvia Central Committee. [republic as heard] [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 23 Dec 87 LD]

Economic

Rytov Comments on Jan-Nov Economic Data

PM240931 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Dec 87
Morning Edition p 3

[Yu. Rytov article: "At the Finish—Preparing for the Start" under rubric "Statistics and Our Commentary"]

[Text] The USSR State Committee for Statistics reports that there was 3.8% increase in industrial production output in the past 11 months overall, including 7.2% growth in November. The profit plan was fulfilled. In January through October R232 million in savings was accumulated in excess of the plan. Prime production costs in industry were reduced. There was a 4.1% increase in labor productivity in the 11 months.

According to folk wisdom, the hardest thing of all is to wait behind and then have to catch up. In the last months of this year our economy has been experiencing precisely these two difficulties at the same time. On the one hand, it is trying to make up for lost time and achieve the plan targets. On the other hand, it is waiting to transfer to the new system of economic management. And not just waiting—preparing.

But let us take one thing at a time. So, at the end of the year our industry has made a great leap forward. There is reason to hope that the annual plan will be met in many important indicators.

However... The State Committee for Statistics report also includes other figures. They show that there are and there can be no grounds for complacency. The chronic ills of our economy are still acutely felt: arrhythmia and failure to meet contract deliveries. Judge for yourselves: One in three associations and enterprises have failed to honor their contract commitments!

The machine building complex is perhaps the most vulnerable sector of our economy. Targets are not being met for the output of most types of machinery and equipment. In November the output of heavy-duty electric machines and alternating current electric motors fell short of the plan. The output of metal cutting machine tools and forging and pressing machinery is considerably short of the targets. Likewise, targets for the production of excavators, tractors, and chemical equipment have not been reached. The proportion of enterprises failing to honor contractual obligations is particularly high in the machine building complex: 36%.

There is a great deal of talk at present about end results in the national economy. But, sad to say, economic imbalances and failure to honor contract commitments ultimately have a highly unfavorable impact on the output of consumer goods.

For example, USSR Ministry of Light Industry enterprises have failed to secure targets for the output of certain types of fabric and footwear. Taken as a whole, their production arrears amount to R1.1 billion. And these arrears are still growing!

The trade network—and, therefore, we, the consumer—is short of radio equipment, television sets, tape recorders, refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, and motorcycles. Knowing this, does it really come as any surprise that the retail trade plan has only been met by 96.5%?

There is, therefore, really no need to demonstrate the importance of the last few days of December. Every effort must be made to bring the year to a worthy close. Not "for form's sake" or for the reports, but to ensure steady, confident work next year. Difficult? Yes. But perfectly feasible. The experience of the best production collectives convinces us of this.

One more highly complex task has to be solved in the days left. We have to complete thorough preparations for the transfer to the new work conditions.

Many of our economic workers impatiently awaited the introduction of economic accountability and self-financing, regarding them as a panacea for all ills and defects. However, they were disappointed when they received the normatives and control figures. It turned out that in many cases even more rigorous working conditions were being proposed for them!

In a recent IZVESTIYA article (issue No 256) D. Yefimenkov, director of the Sverdlovsk Tire Plant, particularly mentioned the arbitrary approach to setting economic normatives and the fact that the production program is overloaded with state orders which leave no room for maneuver.

We have had two official replies to this item: from V. Orlov, USSR deputy finance minister, and N. Chetverikov, USSR deputy minister of the petroleum refining and petrochemical industry. The complexity of the current production situation is again raised in these replies. On the one hand, economic normatives are worked out on the basis of 5-year plan targets. But on the other hand, they take account of the specific economic conditions at each enterprise: the state of production funds, the level of profitability under the present price system, and so forth.

But here is an interesting point: even under the rigorous conditions that have been set for the Sverdlovsk Tire Plant, economic accountability has opened up possibilities for this collective's full financial prosperity (the plant has been self-financing since the beginning of this year). Provided, of course, that work is performed well and in an enterprising fashion and that constant concern to improve production quality is shown. In the first 6 months of the year the collective's social development

fund was 15.3% above the plan and its material incentive fund—36.6% above the plan. The average monthly wage is R233, which is R8.9 above average for this sector....

I am not just idly quoting figures. The financial situation of every association and every enterprise must now be very carefully studied. We must no longer rely on hand-outs by the state. And how many other issues closely connected with this have still to be resolved! We have to complete delivery contracts, give serious thought to the introduction of economic accountability in all internal plant units, organize cadres' economic training....

In short, there is a great deal of work to be done. But this work is imperative. Economic reform is entering the stage of practical deeds.

Agricultural

CPSU Cencom Letter Defines Agro-Industrial Tasks
PM240955 Moscow MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian
3 Dec 87 p 1

["CPSU Central Committee Letter to Machine Operators and Leaders of Economically Accountable Contracting Collectives, Specialists and Scientists, Kolkhoz Chairmen, Sovkhoz Directors, and Industrial Workers Supplying the Countryside with Material and Technical Resources, and All Labor Collectives in the Agro-Industrial Complex"]

[Text] Dear Comrades!

All the Soviet people, led by the Communist Party, are doing tremendous work to restructure the economy and our society's entire life. The party's practical work is centered on man, his interests and needs. The task of significantly improving Soviet people's food supplies within 2-3 years has been given priority among the many social problems to be resolved.

As a result of agro-industrial complex workers' selfless toil, gross agricultural output has increased by 10% in the past 2 years in comparison with the annual average for the previous 5-year plan.

Positive changes have been noted in crop farming—agriculture's base sector. Purposeful work to assimilate scientifically validated crop farming systems, intensive crop cultivation techniques, and progressive forms of labor organization and remuneration has made it possible to ensure an increase in crop production. On average the gross grain harvest for this period exceeded 210 million tonnes a year or an increase of 17% compared with the 11th 5-Year Plan level. Production of sugar beet, sunflowers, and other crops increased. Noticeable qualitative changes are occurring in feed production, too.

Recent achievements show that the restructuring in crop farming is gathering momentum. Evaluating the situation objectively, however, it must be seen that this is only the beginning. Gross yields of a number of important crops, particularly grain, as well as potatoes, vegetables, and fruit do not satisfy the country's needs and lag considerably behind the Food Program targets.

Real opportunities have now been created for increasing the rate of growth of arable crop production.

The crucial year in this respect is to be 1988, which is of decisive significance for the fulfillment of the 5-year plan as a whole.

The state plan for this year sets the country's crop farmers high targets. The gross grain harvest across the country as a whole envisages a 30% increase compared with the average annual level achieved in the 11th 5-Year Plan. Production of oil-producing crops is to increase by 34%, sugar beet production by 21%, cotton fiber production by 4%, flax production by 19%, and coarse and succulent feed production by 16%. High targets have been set for the production of potatoes, vegetables, fruit, and other crops. No matter how difficult the conditions, it is necessary not only to fulfill the plans but also to significantly overfulfill them so as to compensate as much as possible for the harvest shortfall in 1986-1987.

This task is undoubtedly difficult but it can be fulfilled. At the present stage of development of the country's economy all the objective conditions have been created for achieving a leap forward in increasing crop production. The experience of the past 2 years has convincingly shown that the yield of grain crops and other crops rose sharply on those kolkhozes and sovkhozes which managed to take full advantage of those conditions and which, having adopted the collective contract and economic accountability, made correct use of the means of intensification.

A considerable increase in grain crop yield was achieved on farms in Belorussia and in Cherkassy, Ternopol, Transcarpathian, and Kiev Oblasts thanks to persistent work on the improvement of soil fertility, the assimilation of intensive techniques, and the improvement of cadre skills.

Many kolkhozes and sovkhozes have reached a fundamentally new technological standard and have begun to achieve 70-80 quintals of wheat, 80-90 quintals of rice, more than 100 quintals of corn, 25-30 quintals of sunflowers, over 500 quintals of sugar beet and vegetables, and 300-400 quintals of potatoes per hectare.

It is noteworthy, however, that in addition to the farms which are achieving big harvests there are also quite a few kolkhozes and sovkhozes which are producing considerably smaller harvests in identical conditions.

Analysis shows that the poor harvests on many farms are due in the main to the most flagrant violations of production discipline, the slow assimilation of crop farming systems, outmoded seed cultivation, mismanagement in the use of fertilizers, plant protection agents, equipment, and other resources, and a failure to adhere to field work deadlines.

It is quite possible to eliminate these shortcomings if real attempts are made to reveal and activate the human factor and its creative potential and to create in labor collectives the kind of moral and psychological climate and economic conditions so that each worker feels that he is the true master of the soil. The practice of recent years has shown that this is made possible by economic accountability and labor remuneration based on gross income and the collective contract, the family contract, and the lease contract. If the approach by leaders and specialists on each kolkhoz and sovkhoz to the introduction of progressive forms of labor organization and remuneration and advanced technology is not formalistic but businesslike the results will soon follow and we will be able to bring the yield of laggard farms up to the level of the advanced ones. This is a tremendous reserve for increasing crop production.

To reach the planned targets, each kolkhoz and sovkhoz must take account of the results of work, accumulated experience, and past mistakes to formulate and implement a package of effective organizational, economic, technological, and other measures which will guarantee the maximum harvest from each field and a considerable increase in all types of crop farming products.

At the same time it is also necessary to take account of conditions at this time of year. They have their own characteristics and difficulties. The increased amount of spring plowing and late fall plowing in conditions of waterlogged and overcompacted soil can lead to an increase in weed infestation, considerably increase the pressure of spring field work, and require adjustments of technique to prevent a harvest shortfall.

Priority must be given to concern for increasing grain production—the basis of the country's food stock. The grain problem is now not only of socioeconomic significance but also of political significance. Until now it has been necessary to buy a considerable quantity of grain abroad. The solution of the grain problem and the rational use of grain must constantly be at the center of attention of every party organization, every kolkhoz and sovkhoz, and every crop farmer.

Fuller use should be made of the great potential of corn, which has been underrated even in traditional corn cultivation regions. For that purpose it is necessary to introduce new techniques on a wide scale, achieving a considerable increase in yield while reducing the consumption of pesticides, and to ensure the precise fulfillment of each manufacturing operation from seed preparation through to harvesting and storage.

Intensification of feed production is a very important task for agro-industrial complex workers. It is essential to achieve high yields from the natural feed-producing land, to considerably improve the storage and enhance the quality of feed, and to speed up the solution of the problem of feed protein. Attention must be paid here to improving the cultivation of silage corn using grain techniques, pulse crops, rape, soybean, perennial grasses, and feed root crops.

If the reliable preconditions for a good harvest in the 3d year of the 5-year plan are to be created it is very important to make comprehensive and timely preparations for spring sowing and to carry it out in a well-organized way, at the optimal time, and to a high standard. Prime concern must be given to timely seed preparation. The fact that many farms in the Non-Chernozem Zone, the Urals, Siberia, and Kazakhstan do not have full seed provision is causing serious alarm. Also a considerable amount of the seed is of reduced germinative capacity. Efficient work by grain cleaning and drying complexes must be ensured so that the cleaning and drying of seeds and their bringing into sowing condition may be completed more quickly.

The success of spring sowing will depend in many respects on prompt and reliable preparation of equipment. The task is to ensure that stable teams and links are set up on each farm, that workshops work to maximum capacity, and that progressive methods and techniques for repairing machines are introduced. Work must be organized so that sowing and earth-cultivation machines are completely ready for work by 1 February at the latest. Special attention must be paid to the quality of repair work and careful setting and adjustment of machinery. Special commissions incorporating the people who will actually operate the machines in the field must carry out the acceptance of every machine.

Kolkhoz and sovkhoz party organizations and leaders and agro-industrial complex specialists must draw the necessary conclusions from the lessons of harvesting the 1987 crop. There must be no repetition of the mistakes where, because of poor and late preparation of equipment, harvesting in some regions took much too long, resulting in considerable crop losses. It is extremely important to build up the harvesting-machine pool and to take measures to strengthen threshing, cleaning, and drying units, increase capacities for the storage and preparation of output, and to complete the repair of all harvesting equipment by 1 April.

A radical breakthrough must be effected in the utilization of every hectare of reclaimed land. For this it is necessary to enhance the responsibility of reclamation workers, kolkhoz members, sovkhoz workers, and all labor collectives for securing at least the planned yield and carrying out prompt and high-quality preparation of irrigated or drained land and the repair of reclamation systems and sprinkler equipment. In short, to do everything to ultimately ensure a high return from such land.

It is extremely important to carry out winter agricultural measures everywhere in a well-organized way, to build up by sowing time adequate moisture content in the soil, fertilizers, pesticides, fuel, and lubricants, and to ensure careful monitoring of the state and tending of winter crops.

Universal assimilation of intensive techniques is the main path to increasing the yield of all crops and the area worked in this way will increase to 50 million hectares, including 39 million under grain, in 1988. It is here that equipment, fertilizer, other material resources, efforts, and attention must be concentrated if the maximum return is to be obtained.

It is essential to work out charts of techniques to be employed and work plans applicable to every field in the light of the prevailing situation and plant biology, this being done with the extensive involvement of scientists, specialists, and pacesetters who have mastered the subtleties of these techniques, and ensure the strictest observance of technological discipline at all stages of crop cultivation. It must be borne in mind that everything in this matter is significant and oversimplification is impermissible. Even small deviations from the relevant technique reduce yields. It is important to extensively introduce the Astrakhan method and ridging technique for the cultivation of vegetable crops, corn, sugar beets, and other row crops, which make it possible to considerably increase the crop, reduce the consumption of herbicides, and make machine operators' work easier.

It is essential under the new management conditions to radically restructure scientific backup. It is essential to assimilate on a large scale the experience of pacesetting farms and scientific achievements, to coordinate more closely the efforts of scientists, specialists and science and production in solving this very important task through the organization of base farms, production and science-and-production systems and on the basis of economically accountable relations.

Fulfillment of set tasks primarily depends on people, the level of their professional and economic knowledge, culture, and receptiveness to what is new and advanced. In this regard the retraining and instruction of all agricultural workers must be organized during the winter period. It is necessary to eradicate formalism and switch over to practical instruction by the method of demonstration and mastery of the methods for regulating and rules for carrying out every technological process and operation. The practical certification of specialists and leaders must become mandatory.

Under present conditions the role and responsibility of specialists on farms is growing considerably. They must actually work as part of an economically accountable link, team, or labor collective, be wholly responsible for the end results, and be real organizers of the assimilation and further improvement of technological systems.

The main requirement is that every kolkhoz and sovkhoz fully mobilize its people, make careful and rational use of all production resources, and treat the land—our national asset—conscientiously. It is essential that there be more extensive introduction of economic management methods, individual farm accounting, the check-book form of monitoring expenditure, collective, family, and lease contracts, and labor remuneration based on gross income. The solution of these complex tasks set for agricultural workers demands that there be no buckpassing anywhere and that every work place have someone who is really in charge who assumes honest and conscientious responsibility for the use of all available resources.

The glorious working class and our socialist industry have a big role to play in the common struggle for the harvest. The CPSU Central Committee calls on industrial enterprise collectives carrying out agricultural orders to promptly deliver machinery, spare parts, petroleum products, mineral fertilizers, and other material and equipment and to considerably improve their quality.

The CPSU Central Committee expresses its confidence that machine operators and leaders of economically accountable contracting collectives, specialists, leaders of kolkhozes and sovkhozes and other agro-industrial complex enterprises, party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations, and labor collectives will put their all into boosting the yield of all agricultural crops, increasing the production of grain, root crops, and other agricultural output, and greeting the 19th All-Union Party Conference with good results in increasing food resources.

Scientific

'Cosmos-1904' Launched 23 December
LD240731 Moscow TASS International Service
in Russian 0715 GMT 24 Dec 87

[Text] Moscow, 24 Dec (TASS)—The launch of another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1904, for continuing space research was carried out in the Soviet Union on Wednesday. It was put into orbit with the parameters: initial period of revolution 104.9 mins.; apogee 1021 km; perigee 989 km; orbital inclination 83°. The apparatus aboard the satellite is working normally.

Three Cosmonauts Join 'Mir' Crew

Cosmonaut Preparing for Shuttle
LD232152 Moscow World Service in
English 1200 GMT 23 Dec 87

[Text] The Soviet Spaceship "Soyuz TM-4," launched on Monday with three men on board is approaching the orbital complex "Mir" after corrections to its course. The docking is to take place at approximately 1600 Moscow time.

Two members of the new crew, Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov, will relieve Yuriy Romanenko, who has been in orbit for nearly 11 months, and Aleksandr Aleksandrov, who is in the 6th month of his mission. The third member of the "Soyuz" crew, Anatoliy Levchenko, will return to earth together with them on 29 December.

Anatoliy Levchenko has been sent on this mission to try out in zero gravity his skills for the future piloting of a shuttle spacecraft being developed in the Soviet Union.

Docking Facilities Described

*LD231715 Moscow TASS in
English 1649 GMT 23 Dec 87*

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS—A space complex comprising the orbiting Mir station, the module Kvant and the spacecraft Soyuz TM-3 and Soyuz TM-4 was formed in orbit today following the docking of the Soyuz TM-4 craft with the Mir station.

Five cosmonauts are working on board. They are Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Aleksandrov, the crew of the main expedition, and the visiting crew, including Vladimir Titov, Musa Manarov and Anatoliy Levchenko.

The Soviet station Mir differs from its predecessors Salyut spacelabs by the availability of five docking facilities on the transfer compartment. This is one of the main differences and advantages of the Mir station.

The main docking assembly is situated, like on Salyut-7, on the longitudinal axis and is intended for docking with manned spacecraft and specialized modules.

A total of five units can dock with the nose section alone—a transport ship and four modules. Besides, there is a stern unit for docking of specialized modules and craft.

Today, the Soyuz TM-4 docked with the stern section. The unmanned cargo ship Progress-33 was disconnected from that port on December 19 after the ship was unloaded and the station's propulsion unit was refueled.

Docking Described

*LD232212 Moscow TASS in English 2142 GMT
23 Dec 87*

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS—A TASS special correspondent reports from the Mission Control Center:

The third main expedition was brought to the Soviet orbital station "Mir". The successful link-up of the ship "Soyuz TM-4" with the station on December 23 signified the beginning of the new stage in the development of cosmonautics. It was the first time that the entire crew was relieved in flight, in a near-earth orbit.

The first main expedition consisting of Leonid Kizim and Vladimir Solovyov worked last year for 125 days on board the stations "Salyut-7" and "Mir". Then there was a traditional pause and the station continued the flight in an automatic regime. On February 8, 1987, its hatch was opened by Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin. Yuriy Romanenko has logged 321 days of flight by today while Aleksandr Aleksandrov, who replaced Laveykin late in July is on the 155th day of the flight. And in a week both of them will be replaced on the station by Vladimir Titov, Musa Manarov and Anatoliy Levchenko.

By several ballistic manoeuvres the orbit of the ship was gradually increased after the lift off. When some 40 minutes remained to go before the docking, the ship's crew had another communications session with the Mission Control Center.

Titov reported that they noticed the station at a distance of 35 kilometres, that its signal lights were seen and that the braking manoeuvres were started.

Soon the ship and the station were just one kilometre apart and the speed of approach was about four metres a second. At 15 hours 28 minutes the ship started flying around the complex to reach the docking module situated in the astrophysical module "Kvant". The flight around the complex was ended in seven minutes. The spacecraft were over the Black Sea. The complex lighted by sunrays appeared on the television screen in the Mission Control Centre. We are about to dock, Vladimir Titov said. Several seconds passed and an operator of the Mission Control Center reported that the docking had taken place.

In an hour and a half the three cosmonauts with bunches of flowers swam into the station. All the five settled in front of the TV camera.

At last we have met, Romanenko said with a smile. We welcome the new arrivals and wholeheartedly share their joy.

We shall show you everything there is in this house, Aleksandr Aleksandrov said. Let it be as dear as home to you.

Our impression is that you have worked fine, Vladimir Titov said. The entire station is crammed with crates, instruments, materials, equipment to be descended. We shall do all to work successfully, too.

Work Starts on Complex

*LD232118 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian
1900 GMT 23 Dec 87*

[Excerpt] As we have already reported, the Soyuz TM-4 spacecraft docked with the Mir orbital station today. A crew of five has begun working in the complex. Leonid

Lazarevich, our correspondent, interviewed Aleksey Arkhipovich Leonov, deputy head of the cosmonauts' training center, at the Flight Control Center:

[Begin recording] [Leonov] This day is a great one, very pleasant for all the crews; they will probably remember it for a long time. But now the holiday is already over, and work is beginning. We are scheduled to execute a complete change of crew on the complex for the first time. We are planning for the first time joint work by the crews, the one which has already finished duty in orbit...

[Lazarevich interrupts]...almost finished duty.

[Leonov] Yes, almost, yes. And the crew which has flown up to operate this station for a long period of time. We have not done this before. There was a partial changeover once before. Usually the departing crew spent around 10 days on mothballing the station and all its systems, and then left. Then the next crew flew in and spent about 10-15 days demothballing it—with great losses, of course. But now, the Mir orbital station is of a completely different type. It has, as you know, six docking ports—and now five people are working together on it. The station is not being mothballed, everything is in good, top-class condition. The crew which has now arrived—Volodya Titov, Musa Manarov, and Tolya Levchenko—and they are starting work right away, taking over the systems from Romanenko and Aleksandrov who are explaining the ship's peculiarities to them. They are not spending time looking for charts and equipment, and that's as it should be. The station has been made habitable...

[Lazarevich interrupts]...and operational.

[Leonov]...and operational, yes. And in the process of work, of course, the crew forgot something somewhere [words indistinct] But now they will find everything

together, that is to say, they will execute joint work connected with technological experiments. Then they will see that crew off, and we hope to see Yuri Romanenko, Sasha Aleksandrov, and Tolya Levchenko on earth on 29 December.

Week's Agenda for Cosmonauts

*LD231530 Moscow TASS in
English 1510 GMT 23 Dec 87*

[Text] Moscow December 23 TASS—The Soyuz TM-4 manned spaceship docked with the MIR research complex carrying cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Aleksandrov on board today at 15.51, Moscow time.

At 17.20, after the checking of the air-tightness of the docking assembly, Vladimir Titov, Musa Manarov and Anatoliy Levchenko moved to the compartment of the research complex.

The five Soviet cosmonauts will stay on board the MIR orbital complex for 7 days. In the course of joint work they will conduct a series of scientific, technical, medical and biological experiments. Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Aleksandrov will pass over to the new crew their experience of operating the equipment and instruments of the permanent manned research complex.

After concluding the planned work, cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko, Aleksandr Aleksandrov and Anatoliy Levchenko will return to the earth on board the Soyuz TM-3 spaceship, while Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov will continue their work on the near-earth orbit.

On-board systems of the MIR research complex are functioning normally. The cosmonauts continue to fulfil a flight program.